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A LYRICAL
LITERAL VERSION OF THE PSALMS.

BY THE REV. FREDERIC FYSH, M.A.

AUTHOR OF "ANASTASIS EXAMINED," "CATECHISM OF THE APOCALYPSE,"

&c. &c.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

He that wends his way and weeps,
Bearing the seed-draught,
Will doubtless come with singing,
Bearing his sheaves.



Seeleys.

FLEET STREET, AND HANOVER STREET,
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THE BOOK OF PSALMS.

PART III.

PSALM LXXIII. TO LXXXIX. INCLUSIVE.

PART III.

PSALM LXXIII. TO LXXXIX. INCLUSIVE.

PSALM LXXIII.

A PSALM OF ASAPH.

I.

- 1 ONLY good is God to Israel :
 To the pure in heart.

II.

- 2 But as for me,
 My feet had well nigh swerv'd :
 My steps had all but slipt.
3 For I envied the vain-glorious :
 I was habitually seeing
 The prosperity of the wicked.
4 For they are free from pains :
 And their body is sound and plump.
5 They're exempt from the troubles of mortals :
 Nor are they plagued, with men.

- 6 Therefore pride, as a neck-chain, encircles
 them :
 The garment of violence covers them.
7 Their eyes stand out from fatness :
 The thoughts of their hearts flow over.
8 They scoff, and speak in wickedness :
 From on high they speak oppression.
9 They set their mouth in the heavens :
 And their tongue parades on earth.
10 Therefore he turns his people hither :
 And abundant waters are quaff'd by them.
11 “ How should God know ? ” say they :
 “ And knowledge be in the Most High ? ”

III.

- 12 Lo, these are the wicked—the ever prosperous :
 They increase in riches.
13 Only in vain have I cleansed my heart :
 And washed my hands in innocence.
14 For I have been plagued all day :
 And chasten'd every morning.
15 Should I say, “ I WILL announce this,”
 Lo, I should be acting treacherously
 Against the race of Thy children.
16 I earnestly mused to know this :
 A pain it was in mine eyes.
17 Till I enter'd the sanctuary of God,
 And understood their end.

IV.

- 18 Only in slippery places Thou settest them :
Thou lettest them fall to ruin.
19 How are they desolate, as in a moment !
They perish *and* come to an end with terror.
20 Like a dream through awaking,
In the city, O Lord, Thou despisest their image.

V.

- 21 For my heart was embitter'd :
And I was pierced in my reins.
22 I also was dumb, and knew not :
I was a beast before Thee.
23 Yet I am continually with Thee :
Thou layest hold of my right hand.
24 Thou guidest me by Thy counsel :
In the train of honour Thou takest me.

VI.

- 25 Whom have I in heaven *but Thee* ?
I desire none on earth beside Thee.
26 My flesh and my heart do waste :
But God is the Rock of my heart,
And my portion for ever.
27 For lo, who are far from Thee perish :
Thou destroyest all those who are wanton against
Thee.
28 But as for me,
Nearness to God is good for me :

In Jehovah my Lord I place my confidence,
To publish all Thy works.

STROPHE—DIVISION 1. 10. 6. 3. 4. 4.=10. 10. 4. 4.
=28.

PSALM LXXIV.

A LESSON OF ASAPH.

I.

- 1 WHEREFORE, O God,
Hast Thou cast us off for ever ?
Thine anger smokes
Against the sheep of Thy pasture.
- 2 Remember Thy congregation
Which Thou hast acquired of old :
Thine inheritance which Thou redeemedst :
Mount Sion whereon Thou hast dwelt.

II.

- 3 Lift up thy footsteps
To the eternal ruins :
All in the sanctuary the foe has destroyed.
- 4 Thine adversaries roar in the midst
Of Thy places of revelation :
They set up their ensigns for signs.
- 5 He might be taken for one
Who lifts up the axe in a forest-thicket.

- 6 And now they break down its carv'd work
 All at once with lever and hammer.
7 They set on fire Thy sanctuaries :
 They desecrate to the ground
 The dwelling-place of Thy Name.
8 They say in their hearts,
 “ Let us destroy them at once : ”
 They have burnt all the places of revelation
 Of God in the land.
9 We see not our signs :
 There is no longer a prophet :
 There is no one amongst us who knows how long.

III.

- 10 How long, O God, shall the foe reproach,
 And the enemy despise Thy name for ever ?
11 Why drawest Thou back Thy hand,
 Even Thy right hand ?
 Annihilate out of Thy bosom.

IV.

- 12 And God is my King of old :
 Working salvation
 In the midst of the land.
13 Thyself didst cleave the sea by thy strength :
 Thou didst shiver the dragons' heads in the waters.
14 Thyself didst smash the heads of the crocodile :
 Thou didst give him for food to the folk in the
 wilderness.

- 15 Thyself didst cleave both fountain and flood :
 Thyself didst dry up mighty rivers.
- 16 Thine is the day : Thine also the night :
 Thyself hast prepared the light and the sun.
- 17 Thyself hast set all the boundaries of earth :
 Thyself hast form'd *both* summer and winter.

v.

- 18 Remember this :
How the foe reproaches Jehovah ;
 And an impious people despise Thy Name.
- 19 Give not to the wild beast
 The life of thy turtle-dove :
 The congregation of Thine afflicted
 Forget not for ever.
- 20 Have respect to the covenant :
 For the darknesses of the earth
 Are full of the dwellings of violence.
- 21 Let not the opprest return ashamed :
 Let the needy and destitute praise Thy Name.
- 22 Arise, O God : maintain Thy cause :
 Call to mind the revilings
 From the impious all day long.
- 23 Forget not the voice of Thine adversaries :
 The tumult of Thine opponents
 Ascendeth continually.

STROPHE—DIVISION 2. 7. 2. 6. 6.=11. 12. Including
 the title, 12. 12.=24.

PSALM LXXV.

TO THE CHIEF MUSICIAN. DESTROY NOT. A PSALM OF
ASAPH. A SONG OF PRAISE.

I.

- 1 We praise Thee, O God, we praise Thee ;
And near is Thy Name. They publish Thy
wonders.
- 2 “ For I will fix a time :
“ Myself will judge with rectitude.
- 3 “ The earth is dissolved with all its inhabitants :
“ I, I, have weighed its pillars.”

PAUSE.

II.

- 4 I say to the arrogant, “ Be ye not arrogant : ”
And to the wicked, “ Exalt not the horn.”
- 5 Exalt not your horn on high :
Speak not with stiffen'd neck.
- 6 For exaltation comes not
From the east, or the west, or the south.
- 7 But God decides :
He abases one and exalts another.
- 8 For in JEHOVAH's hand is a cup ;
And it foams with wine :
It is full of mingled drink.
He also poureth out of it :

And all the wicked on earth
Must suck out and drink its dregs.

III.

- 9 But as for me, I will publish for ever :
I WILL sing praise to the God of Jacob.
10 I will also cut off all the horns of the wicked :
The horns of the righteous shall be exalted.

STROPHE—DIVISION 3. 5. 2.=5. 5.=3. 7.=10.

PSALM LXXVI.

TO THE CHIEF MUSICIAN. FOR STRINGED INSTRUMENTS. A PSALM OF ASAPH. A SONG OF PRAISE.

I.

- 1 IN Judah God is known :
His name is great in Israel.
2 In Salem is his tabernacle :
And His dwelling-place in Sion,
3 There brake He the glittering arrows :
The shield, the sword, and the war.

II.

- 4 Excellent art Thou, and glorious
Beyond the plunder-mountains !
5 The stout of heart are spoil'd :
They sleep their sleep :
The men of valour are all become powerless.

- 6 At Thy rebuke, O God of Jacob,
 Both chariot and horse are entranced.
 7 Thou art to be fear'd, even Thou :
 And who may stand in thy presence,
 When once Thou art angry ?
 8 From heaven Thou proclaimedst aloud Thy de-
 cision ;
 The earth was afraid, and was still :
 9 When God arose up to judgment ;
 To save all the meek of the earth.

PAUSE.

- 10 For the wrath of man doth praise Thee :
 With the remnant of wrath Thou dost gird
 Thyself.

III.

- 11 Vow and pay to JEHOVAH your God,
 All ye who are round about Him :
 Let gifts be brought to the Dreadful One.
 12 For He prunes the breath of princes :
 To the kings of the earth He is terrible.

STROPHE—DIVISION 3. 7. 2.=12. Total number of
 verses in this Psalm and the preceding conjointly, 22 :
 including the titles, 24.

PSALM LXXVII.

TO THE CHIEF MUSICIAN OVER JEDUTHUN (THE
JEDUTHUNIC CHOIR). A PSALM OF ASAPH.

I.

- 1 I WILL cry to God with my voice,
 To God with my voice :
 And attend Thou unto me.
- 2 In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord :
 My hand hung open at night, and ceased not :
 My soul refused to be comforted.
- 3 I WILL remember God, and bemoan myself :
 Muse I WILL, and my spirit is sunk.

PAUSE.

II.

- 4 Thou holdest firm mine eyes
 Through the night-watches :
 Disquieted am I, and cannot speak.
- 5 I think on the olden days :
 The years of ancient times.
- 6 I WILL remember my song in the night :
 Muse I WILL in my heart :
 And my spirit makes anxious inquiry.

III.

- 7 Will the Lord reject for ever ?
 And display his favour no more ?

- 8 Is His kindness ended for ever ?
Hath His promise ceased to all generations ?
9 Hath God forgotten to be gracious ?
And shut up in wrath His bowels ?

PAUSE.

IV.

- 10 Then I said, "It is mine infirmity :
"The years of the right hand of the Most
High."
11 I will mention the deeds of JAH :
For I will remember Thy wonders of old.
12 And I think on all Thy doing :
Muse I WILL ON Thy works.

V.

- 13 Thy way, O God, is holy :
Who is a great God as ELOHIM ?
14 Thou art the God who doest wonders :
Thou hast shown thy power among the nations.
15 Thou hast redeem'd with the arm Thy people,
The sons of Jacob and Joseph.

PAUSE.

VI.

- 16 The waters saw Thee, O God ;
The waters saw Thee, *and* shudder'd :
The floods also trembled vehemently.

17 The clouds stream'd waters : the thunder-clouds
rattled :

And thine arrows went abroad.

18 Thy thunder crash'd in whirls :
Lightnings illumined the world :
The earth, it trembled and quaked.

VII.

19 Thy way was in the sea ;
And Thy paths in many waters :
And thy footsteps were not known.
20 Thou didst lead like a flock Thy people
By the hand of Moses and Aaron.

STROPHE—DIVISION 3. 3. 3. 3. 3. 2.=20.

Including the title, 3. 3. 3. 3. 3. 3. 3.=21.

PSALM LXXVIII.

A LESSON OF ASAPH.

I.

1 GIVE ear to my law, my people :
Incline your ear to the words of my mouth.
2 I will open my mouth with a parable ;
I will utter enigmas of old :
3 Which we have heard and known ;
And our fathers have told us.

- 4 From their children we will not withhold them,
Making known to the race to come
JEHOVAH's praise, and His strength,
And His wonders which He hath done.

II.

- 5 He set up a testimony in Jacob :
And laid down a law in Israel :
Which He commanded our fathers
To teach their children.
6 That the race to come might learn it
(The sons who should still be born) :
And rise up and tell it their children :
7 And place their trust in God ;
Nor forget the deeds of the Lord ;
And keep His commandments :
8 And not resemble their fathers,
A rebellious race and refractory,
A race which prepared not its heart,
And whose spirit was faithless to God.

III.

- 9 The children of Ephraim were *cowardly* bowmen :
They turned back in the day of battle.
10 They kept not the covenant of God :
And would not walk in His law.
11 They also forgot His deeds :
And His wonders which He had shown them.

IV.

- 12 He did wonders before their fathers
 In the land of Egypt—
 On the plain of Zoan.
- 13 He clave the sea and brought them through :
 He piled as a heap the waters.
- 14 By day by a cloud He led them :
 All night by a light of fire.
- 15 He clave the rocks in the wilderness :
 And gave them drink,
 As from the great abyss.
- 16 Yea, streams He brought out of rocks :
 And made waters flow down as rivers.

V.

- 17 But they sinned yet more against Him :
 To provoke the Most High in the wilderness.
- 18 And they tempted God in their heart :
 And demanded food for their appetite.
- 19 And they spake against God *and* said,
 “ Can God provide
 “ A table in the wilderness ?
- 20 “ Behold, He struck the rock
 “ That waters gush’d out, and the streams over-
 flowed !
 “ Can He also provide *us* bread ?
 “ Can He furnish flesh for His people ? ”

VI.

- 21 JEHOVAH heard, and was angry :
 And a fire was kindled 'gainst Jacob ;
 And wrath went up against Israel :
22 Because they believed not in God ;
 Nor trusted in His salvation.
23 He commanded the clouds above ;
 And open'd the doors of heaven :
24 And rain'd on them manna to eat ;
 And gave them the corn of heaven.
25 Each ate the bread of the mighty :
 Provisions He sent to the full.
26 He motion'd the east wind in heaven :
 By His power He brought the south wind.
27 He rain'd on them flesh as dust :
 Feather'd fowl as the sand of the sea.
28 He let them fall 'midst their camp :
 Around their habitations.
29 They ate and were fully satisfied :
 And He gratified their appetite.
30 They were yet indulging their appetite ;
 The food was still in their mouth :
31 When the wrath of God rose against them ;
 And He slew the fat ones among them ;
 And struck down the young of Israel.

VII.

- 32 With all this they sinned yet more :
 Nor believed for His wondrous works.

- 33 So their days He consumed in vanity :
 And their years in terror.
34 When He slew them, then they search'd for
 Him :
 They return'd and sought God early.
35 They remember'd that God was their Rock :
 And the Most High God their Redeemer.
36 But they flatter'd Him with their mouth :
 And lied to Him with their tongue.
37 And their heart, it was not firm with Him :
 Unsteady were they in His covenant.
38 And He in compassion continually
Forgave their iniquity, and did not destroy them :
 Oft turn'd He away His wrath ;
 And awaken'd not all His zeal.
39 He remember'd that they were flesh :
 A passing breath which returns not.
40 How oft in the desert they griev'd Him,
 And vex'd Him in the wilderness !

VIII.

- 41 And they tempted God anew :
 And branded the Holy One of Israel.
42 They remember'd not His hand
 When He ransom'd them from the enemy ;
43 When He wrought His wonders in Egypt—
 His signs in the plain of Zoan ;
44 How He turn'd their rivers to blood,
 That they could not drink of their streams ;

- 45 *How* He sent against them vermin
Which devour'd them, and frogs which des-
 troy'd them ;
- 46 Their increase gave to the caterpillar,
And to the locust their labour ;
- 47 Destroy'd their vines with hail,
And their sycamore-trees with frost ;
- 48 Shut up to the hail their cattle,
And their flocks to the lightning-flame ;
- 49 Sent against them the glow of His wrath,
Indignation, anger, and trouble,
A host of affliction-angels ;
- 50 *How* He weigh'd a path for His wrath,
Nor spared their soul from death,
But gave up their life to the pestilence ;
- 51 How He smote all the first-born in Egypt,
The prime of their strength in the land of Ham :
- 52 How He led forth His people as sheep ;
As a flock in the desert guided them :
- 53 *How* He led them in fearless security,
While the sea overwhelm'd their enemies :
- 54 To His holy boundary brought them,
The mountain His right hand acquired :
- 55 How He drove out before them the heathen,
And measured them out as a heritage,
And made Israel's tribes to dwell in their tents.

IX.

- 56 Yea, they tempted and grieved the Most High God ;
And did not observe His testimonies :

- 57 But turnèd back and were faithless ;
They swerv'd like a treacherous bow.
58 They enraged Him with their high places :
And provoked Him with their idols.
59 God heard, and was angry :
And was sore displeased with Israel.
60 He forsook the dwelling of Shiloh :
The tent which He pitch'd among men.
61 He gave up His strength to captivity :
His beauty to the hand of the adversary.
62 His people He gave to the sword :
And was wroth with His inheritance.
63 The fire consumed their youth :
No nuptial songs for their maidens.
64 Their priests, they fell by the sword :
And their widows did not weep.

X.

- 65 Then the Lord awoke as one sleeping :
As a warrior shouting with wine.
66 And He struck His enemies' back :
An eternal reproach He made them.
67 He rejected the tents of Joseph ;
And chose not the tribe of Ephraim :
68 But chose the tribe of Judah ;
Mount Sion which He loved :
69 And built like high *mountains* His sanctuary ;
Like the earth which He stablish'd for ever.
70 He selected David His servant :
From the flocks of sheep He took him.

- 71 From following the lambs He brought him :
To feed His people Jacob,
And Israel His inheritance.
- 72 And he fed them with upright heart :
And with skilful hands he guided them.

STROPHE—DIVISION 4. 4. 3. 5. 4. 11. 9. 15. 9. 8.
=20. 20. 24. 8.=72.

PSALM LXXIX.

A PSALM OF ASAPH.

I.

- 1 O God, the heathen have enter'd Thy heritage ;
Polluted Thy holy temple :
And laid Jerusalem in ruins.
- 2 They have given Thy servants' bodies
For food to the fowls of the heaven :
The flesh of Thy saints—
To the wild beasts of the earth.
- 3 They have pour'd out their blood like water
Around Jerusalem :
And there was none to bury.
- 4 We're become a reproach to our neighbours :
A scorn and derision to those around us.

II.

- 5 How long, ЈЕHOVAH,
Wilt Thou be angry for ever ?
Thy jealousy burns like fire.

6 Pour out Thy wrath on the heathen who know
Thee not :

On the kingdoms which call not upon Thy Name.

7 For he devoureth Jacob :
And they lay waste his portion.

8 Remember not against us
Former iniquities :
May Thy bowels speedily succour us ;
For we are reduced exceedingly.

III.

9 Help us, O God of our salvation,
For the sake of Thy glorious Name :
For Thy Name's sake deliver us,
And pardon our sin.

10 Why should the heathen say,
“ Where is their God ? ”

May amends for thy servants' blood which is shed
Be shown on the heathen before our eyes.

11 May the sighing of those who are bound come
before Thee :

With Thy mighty arm preserve the dying.

12 And recompense to our neighbours
Sevenfold into their bosom

The reproach wherewith they reproach Thee, O
Lord.

IV.

- 13 And as for us Thy people,
 And sheep of Thy pasture,
 We will give Thee thanks for ever :
 To all generations
 We will declare Thy praise.

STROPHE—DIVISION 4. 4. 4. 1.=12. 1.

PSALM LXXX.

TO THE CHIEF MUSICIAN. ON LILIES. A TESTIMONY
 OF ASAPH. A PSALM.

I.

- 1 GIVE ear, Thou Shepherd of Israel,
 Who leadest Joseph like sheep :
 Shine forth, Thou who sittest enthroned on the
 cherubim.
- 2 Before Ephraim, Benjamin, Manasseh,
 Stir up Thy strength, and come to our rescue.
- 3 Restore us, O God :
 And cause Thy face to shine,
 That we may be saved.

II.

- 4 Jehovah God, *Thou God* of Hosts,
 How long wilt Thou smoke
 Against the prayer of Thy people ?

- 5 With bread of tears Thou feedest them :
And givest them tears to drink in full measure.
- 6 A strife to our neighbours Thou makest us :
And our enemies make merry.
- 7 Restore us, O God, *Thou God* of Hosts :
Cause Thy face to shine,
That we may be saved.

III.

- 8 Thou removedst a vine out of Egypt :
Thou didst thrust out the heathen, and plant it.
- 9 Thou preparedst room for it :
It took deep root, and filled the land.
- 10 With its shadow the mountains were cover'd :
With its tendrils the cedars of God.
- 11 It sent forth its boughs to the sea :
And its shoots to the river.
- 12 Why hast Thou then broken down its fences,
That all they who pass by pluck of it ?
- 13 The boar of the forest gnaws it :
And what moves on the field doth browse on it.

IV.

- 14 Turn now, O God, *Thou God* of Hosts :
Look down from heaven,
And behold, and visit this vine.
- 15 Maintain what Thy right-hand hath planted :
And the Son whom Thou hast made strong for
Thyself.

- 16 It is burnt with fire, and cut down^r:
 They perish before the rebuke of thy countenance.
- 17 May Thy hand be over the man of Thy Right-
 hand :
 Over the Son of man
 Whom Thou hast made strong for Thyself.
- 18 We will not turn back from Thee :
 Revive us, and we will call on Thy name.
- 19 JEHOVAH-GOD, *Thou God* of Hosts,
 Lead us back :
 Cause Thy face to shine,
 That we may be saved.

STROPHE—DIVISION 3. 4. 6. 6.=7. 12.=19.
 Including the title, 8. 12.=20.

PSALM LXXXI.

TO THE CHIEF MUSICIAN. ON THE GATH HARP.
 BY ASAPH.

I.

- 1 SING ye aloud to God our strength :
 Make a joyful noise to the God of Jacob.
- 2 Raise the song, and give the timbrel :
 The lovely harp with the lute.
- 3 Blow in the month the horn :
 At the full of the moon, on the day of the feast.

II.

- 4 For it is a statute for Israel :
A rite for the God of Jacob.
5 He gave it a law to Joseph,
When he cross'd the land of Egypt,
Where I heard a language I knew not.
6 I removed from the burden his shoulder :
His hands were set free from the basket.
7 Thou didst call in distress, and I rescued thee :
In the thunder-cover I heard thee :
At the waters of strife I proved thee.

PAUSE.

III.

- 8 Hear, O my people, and let me warn thee.
O Israel, if thou wilt list to me,
9 Let no strange god be with thee :
Nor bow to the god of the stranger.
10 I am JEHOVAH, thy God,
Who brought thee up from the land of Egypt.
Open wide thy mouth, and let me fill it.
11 But my people hearken not unto my voice :
And Israel will not be mine.
12 So I give them over
To the wickedness of their heart :
They walk in their own advisings.
13 O that my people would hear me :
And Israel would walk in my way !
14 I would soon bring down their enemies :
And turn my hand on their adversaries.

- 15 Jehovah's haters would feign to him :
 And their time would continue for ever.
 16 With the fat of wheat He would feed them :
 From the rock would I fill thee with honey.

STROPHES—DIVISION 3. 4. 5. 4. Including the title,
 3. 4. 5. 5 = 7. 10.

PSALM LXXXII.

A PSALM OF ASAPH.

I.

- 1 God stands in the congregation of God :
 In the midst of the gods He judges.
 2 " How long will ye judge unjustly,
 " And regard the face of the wicked ?

PAUSE.

- 3 " Judge the poor and fatherless :
 " Right the afflicted and needy.
 4 " Deliver the poor and destitute :
 " From the hand of the wicked rescue them."

II.

- 5 They know not, nor understand :
 They walk on in darkness.
 All earth's foundations are shaken.
 6 As for me, I have said, " Ye are gods,
 " And sons of the Highest, all of you."

- 7 But ye shall die like men :
And fall like one of the princes.

III.

- 8 Arise, O God, *and* judge the earth :
For Thyself shalt inherit all nations.

STROPHE—DIVISION 4. 3. 1.=4. 4.

PSALM LXXXIII.

A SONG OF PRAISE. A PSALM OF ASAPH.

- 1 Be not silent, O God :
Be not dumb :
Hold not Thy peace, O God.

II.

- 2 For lo, Thine enemies war :
And Thy haters lift up the head.
3 They plot 'gainst Thy people cunningly :
And consult against Thy conceal'd ones.
4 " Come," say they ; " root we them out
" From being a people :
" That Israel's name be mention'd no more."

III.

- 5 For they consult together heartily :
They have form'd a covenant against thee.

- 6 The tents of Edom and of the Ishmaelites ;
Moab and the Hagarenes :
7 Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek ;
Philistines with dwellers at Tyre.
8 The Assyrian also hath join'd them :
They assist the sons of Lot .

PAUSE.

IV.

- 9 Do to them as to Midian,
To Sisera and to Jabin
In the valley of Kishon ;
10 Who were destroy'd at Endor :
And were dung for the land.
11 Make them, their nobles, as Oreb and Zeeb :
And all their princes
As Zebah and Salmunna.
12 Who have said, " Let us take possession
" Of the habitations of God."

V.

- 13 Make them, my God, like thistle-down :
Like stubble before the wind.
14 As fire which burns up the forest ;
As flame which scorches the hills :
15 Even so with Thy tempest pursue them ;
And with Thy storm confound them."

VI.

- 16 Fill their faces with shame :
 May they seek Thy Name, JEHOVAH.
- 17 May they be ashamed and confounded for ever :
 May they blush and perish.
- 18 May they know that Thou, whose Name is JEHOVAH,
 Art alone Most High over all the earth.
- STROPHE—DIVISION 1. 3. 4. 4. 3. 3.—4. 4. 4. 3. 3.
 =12. 6.

PSALM LXXXIV.

TO THE CHIEF MUSICIAN. ON THE GATH HARP.
 A PSALM OF THE SONS OF KORAH.

I.

- 1 How dear are Thy tabernacles,
 JEHOVAH of Hosts !
- 2 My soul, it longs, yea faints
 For the courts of Jehovah :
 My heart and my flesh rejoice
 In the living God.
- 3 Yea, the sparrow hath found a house,
 And the swallow a nest for herself,
 Where she lays her young :
 Thine altars, JEHOVAH of Hosts,
 My King and my God.
- 4 Happy they who dwell in Thy house :
 Still will they praise Thee.

II.

- 5 Happy the man whose strength is in Thee :
 In whose heart are roads.
 6 As they traverse the valley of tears,
 They make it a well :
 And the teacher is cover'd with blessings.
 7 They go from strength to strength :
 He appears before God in Sion.

III.

- 8 JEHOVAH-GOD, *Thou God* of Hosts,
 Hear my prayer :
 Give ear, O God of Jacob.

PAUSE.

- 9 Behold, O God our Shield :
 And regard the face of *me* Thine anointed one.
 10 For a day in Thy courts is better
 Than a thousand *elsewhere*.
 I would rather lie at the threshold
 In the house of my God,
 Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.
 11 For a Sun and a Shield is JEHOVAH-GOD :
 JEHOVAH gives grace and glory :
 He denies no good to those who walk blamelessly.
 12 JEHOVAH of Hosts,
 Happy the man who trusts in Thee.
 STROPHE—DIVISION 4. 3. 5.=7. 5.=12.

PSALM LXXXV.

TO THE CHIEF MUSICIAN.

A PSALM OF THE SONS OF KORAH.

I.

- 1 THOU didst show favour
Unto Thy land, JEHOVAH :
Thou didst return
To the captive sons of Jacob.
- 2 Thou didst forgive
The iniquity of Thy people :
And expiate all their sin.

PAUSE.

- 3 Thou didst take away all Thy fury :
Thou didst turn from the heat of Thine anger.
- 4 Turn to us, O God of our salvation :
And cause to cease Thy wrath against us.

II.

- 5 Wilt Thou be angry with us for ever,
And prolong Thy wrath to all generations ?
- 6 Wilt not Thou Thyself return and quicken us,
That Thy people *again* may rejoice in Thee ?
- 7 Shew us Thy mercy, JEHOVAH :
And grant us Thy salvation.

III.

- 8 I WILL attend
 To what GOD JEHOVAH speaks :
 For He speaks peace to His people,
 And to His saints :
 But let them not turn to folly.
- 9 Truly salvation is nigh them that fear Him :
 That glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and Truth have met together :
 Righteousness and Peace, they kiss each other.
- 11 Truth doth spring from the earth :
 And Righteousness looks from heaven.

IV.

- 12 Yea, JEHOVAH gives what is good :
 And our land produces its increase.
- 13 Righteousness goes before Him :
 And makes her footsteps a way.
- STROPHE—DIVISION 4. 3. 4. 2. Including the title,
 4. 3. 4. 3.=7. 7.=14.

PSALM LXXXVI.

A PRAYER OF DAVID.

I.

- 1 INCLINE Thine ear, JEHOVAH, and hear me :
 For I am afflicted and destitute.
- 2 Preserve my soul, for I am pious :
 O Thou my God,
 Save Thy servant, who trusteth in Thee.

- 3 Be gracious to me, O Lord :
For I call on Thee all day long.
- 4 Gladden the soul of Thy servant :
For to Thee, O Lord, do I lift my soul.
- 5 For Thou, O Lord, art good and forgiving :
And rich in mercy to all who call on Thee.

II.

- 6 Give ear to my prayer, JEHOVAH :
And attend to my loud supplication.
- 7 In the day of my trouble I call on Thee :
For Thou art wont to answer me.
- 8 There is none 'mong the gods like Thee, O Lord :
Nor any works like Thine.
- 9 All the heathen whom Thou hast made shall come,
And worship before Thee, O Lord :
And glorify Thy Name.
- 10 For Thou art great, and doest wonders :
Thou art God alone.

III.

- 11 Teach me Thy way, JEHOVAH :
I will walk in Thy truth.
Unite my heart to fear Thy name.
- 12 I will praise Thee, O Lord my God,
With all my heart :
And laud Thy Name for ever.
- 13 For great is Thy mercy towards me :
And Thou hast deliver'd my soul
From hell beneath.

IV.

- 14 O God, the proud are risen against me :
And a band of the violent seek my life,
And set not Thee before them.
- 15 And Thou, O Lord, art a God
Compassionate and gracious, slow to anger,
And rich in mercy and truth.
- 16 Turn Thy face to me, and be gracious :
Vouchsafe Thy strength to Thy servant,
And save the son of Thy handmaid.
- 17 Perform for me a token for good,
That my haters may fear and be shamed :
For Thyself, JEHOVAH, dost help me, and comfort
me.

STROPHE—DIVISION 5. 5. 3. 4.=10. 7.

PSALM LXXXVII.

A PSALM OF THE SONS OF KORAH.

A SONG OF PRAISE.

I.

- 1 His founded *city is built*
On the holy hills.
- 2 Jehovah loves the gates of Sion
More than all the dwellings of Jacob.
- 3 Glorious things are spoken
Of thee, thou city of God !

PAUSE.

II.

- 4 I will mention Rahab and Babylon
 As those that know Me.
 Lo, Philistia and Tyre with Cush :
 These *nations* were born there.
- 5 And of Sion 'tis said,
 " They each and all were born in her :
 " And HE the Most High doth establish her."
- 6 JEHOVAH will count
 In the writing down of the peoples,
 " This one was born there."

PAUSE.

- 7 And singers with dancers *shall say*,
 " All my springs are in thee."

STROPHE—DIVISION 3. 4.=7.

PSALM LXXXVIII.

A SONG OF PRAISE.

A PSALM OF THE SONS OF KORAH.

TO THE CHIEF MUSICIAN.

UPON THE DISTRESS OF OPPRESSION.

—A LESSON OF HEMAN THE EZRAHITE.

I.

- 1 JEHOVAH, my Saviour-God,
 By day I cry aloud :
 By night before Thee.
- 2 Let my prayer come into Thy presence :
 Incline Thine ear to my cry.

II.

- 3 For my soul is full of suffering :
 And my life on the brink of hell.
- 4 I am reckon'd with them who go down to the pit :
 I am as a man without strength.
- 5 Discarded among the dead :
 Like the slain who lie in the grave ;
 Whom Thou rememb'rest no more,
 And who are cut off from Thy hand.
- 6 In the lowest pit Thou hast laid me :
 In places dark and deep.
- 7 Thine anger presses on me :
 With all Thy waves Thou afflictest me.

PAUSE.

- 8 Thou hast removed mine acquaintance from me :
 And made me to them an abomination.
 I am shut up and go not out.
- 9 Mine eye is wasted through mourning :
I daily call upon Thee, Jehovah :
 I spread forth my hands unto Thee.

III.

- 10 Will Thou do wondrous things to the dead ?
 Will shadows stand up and praise Thee ?
- 11 Will Thy mercy be told in the grave ?
 Thy faithfulness, in destruction ?
- 12 Will Thy wonders be known in darkness ?
 Thy righteousness also,
 In the land of forgetfulness ?

IV.

- 13 But as for me,
My cry is to Thee, JEHOVAH :
In the morning my prayer prevents Thee.
- 14 Wherefore, JEHOVAH,
Rejectest Thou my soul,
And hidest Thy countenance from me ?
- 15 Afflicted am I,
And ready to expire from *my* youth.
I bear Thy terrors :
I resign myself to despair.
- 16 Thy wrath goes over me :
Thy terrors destroy me utterly.
- 17 All day they surround me as water :
They compass me round together.
- 18 Lover and friend Thou hast put far from me :
My companions, the place of darkness.
- STROPHE—DIVISION 2. 7. 3. 6. Including the title,
3. 7. 3. 6.

PSALM LXXXIX.

A LESSON OF ETHAN THE EZRAHITE.

I.

- 1 I WILL sing for ever
JEHOVAH's loving-kindnesses :
I will make known with my mouth
Thy truth to all generations.

- 2 For I say,
 Mercy is built for ever :
 In the heavens Thou maintainest Thy faith-
 fulness.
3 “I have made with My choice one a covenant—
 “ I have sworn to David My servant—
4 “ I will maintain thy seed for ever :
 “ And build thy throne to all generations.”

PAUSE.

II.

- 5 The heavens do praise Thy wonders, JEHOVAH :
 Thy faithfulness also,
 In th' assembly of holy ones.
6 For who in the sky resembles JEHOVAH ?
 Or is like Him among the sons of God ?
7 God is exceedingly terrible
 In the council of holy ones :
 And dreadful for all around Him.

III.

- JEHOVAH, God of Hosts,
 Who strong like Thee, O JAH !
 Thy faithfulness also surrounds Thee.
9 Thou rulest the pride of the sea :
 When its billows swell, Thyself dost still them.
10 Thyself dost crush Rahab
 As one mortally wounded :
 With Thy mighty arm Thou dispersest Thine
 enemies.

- 11 The heaven is Thine : Thine also the earth :
The world and its fulness Thyself hast founded.
12 The north and the south Thyself hast created :
Tabor and Hermon rejoice in Thy Name.
13 Thine is a mighty arm :
Strong is Thy hand, and high Thy right hand.
14 Justice and judgment, the site of Thy throne :
Mercy and truth precede Thy face.

IV.

- 15 Happy the people who know the shout :
They walk in the light of Thy face, JEHOVAH.
16 In Thy Name they rejoice all day :
And are lifted up through Thy righteousness.
17 For Thou art their mighty Ornament :
Thou exaltest our horn by Thy favour.
18 For our Shield belongs to JEHOVAH :
Our King to the Holy One of Israel.

V.

- 19 At that time Thou spakest in vision
To Thy saints, and didst say ;
“ Help I have laid on a warrior :
“ I have lifted a youth from the people.
20 “ I have found My servant David :
“ With My holy oil have anointed him.
21 “ With whom My hand shall be firm :
“ Yea, Mine arm shall strengthen him.
22 “ The enemy shall not oppress him :
“ And the wicked shall not afflict him.

- 23 " I will beat down before him his adversaries :
 " And smite those who hate him.
- 24 " My mercy and truth shall be with him :
 " Through My Name shall his horn be exalted.
- 25 " His hand I will put on the sea :
 " And his right-hand upon the rivers.
- 26 " He shall address Me,
 " ' Thou art my Father, my God,
 " ' And the Rock of my Salvation.'
- 27 " I will also make him My first-born :
 " High o'er the kings of the earth.
- 28 " I will ever retain
 " My loving-kindness towards him :
 " And My covenant shall stand firm with him.

VI.

- 29 " I will set his seed for ever :
 " And his throne as the days of heaven.
- 30 " If his sons forsake My law ;
 " And walk not in My judgments :
- 31 " If they profane My statutes ;
 " And keep not My commandments :
- 32 " Then will I visit
 " Their apostasy with a rod :
 " Their iniquity with stripes.
- 33 " But My mercy I will not withdraw from
 him :
 " Nor lie against My faithfulness.
- 34 " I will not profane My covenant :
 " Nor change what has gone from My lips.

- 35 “ One thing I have sworn in My holiness—
 “ I will not lie unto David—
36 “ His seed shall continue for ever :
 “ And his throne as the sun before Me.
37 “ As the moon shall he be establish'd for ever :
 “ And the witness in heaven is constant.”

PAUSE.

V.

- 38 But THOU hast cast off and rejected :
 And art wroth with Thine anointed.
39 Thou abhorrest Thy servant's covenant :
 Thou profanest his crown to the ground.
40 Thou breakest down all his hedges :
 Thou layest in ruins his strong works.
41 All who pass by the way do rob him :
 A reproach is he to his neighbours.
42 Thou exaltest his foes' right-hand :
 Thou gladdenest all his enemies.
43 Thou turnest back the edge of his sword :
 And lettest him fall in the battle.
44 Thou hast caused him to cease from his
 splendour :
 And cast his throne to the ground.
45 Thou hast shorten'd the days of his youth :
 Thou hast cover'd him with shame.

PAUSE.

VI.

- 46 How long, JEHOVAH,
 Wilt Thou hide Thyself for ever ?
 Thy wrath, it burns like fire.
- 47 Remember how short-lived I am :
 Why hast Thou created all
 The children of men in vain ?
- 48 What mighty man lives, and shall not see death,
 And shall rescue his soul from the hand of hell ?

PAUSE.

- 49 Where are Thy early mercies, O Lord,
 Which Thou in Thy faithfulness
 Didst swear unto David ?
- 50 Remember, O Lord, the reproach of Thy servant ;
 I bear in my bosom all
 The reproach of many peoples :
- 51 Wherewith Thy foes reproach—
 Wherewith they reproach—JEHOVAH,
 The footsteps of thine anointed.

STROPHE—DIVISION 4. 3. 7. 4. 10. 9. 8. 6.=14. 14.
 17. 6. Total number of verses in this Psalm and the
 preceding one conjointly, including their common title,
 70.

DOXOLOGY.

- 52 Blest be JEHOVAH for ever !
 AMEN and AMEN !

NOTES
CRITICAL AND EXPLANATORY
ON THE
THIRD PART OF THE BOOK OF PSALMS.

1

NOTES.

PSALM LXXIII.

THE arrangement of the Psalms, as far as we have proceeded, is as follows. The First Part contains the Davidic JEHOVAH Psalms: the Second, the ELOHIM Psalms, both of David's singers, and of himself; the Third, the JEHOVAH Psalms of David's singers, Asaph and the sons of Korah. Thus the ELOHIM Psalms are enclosed on both sides by the JEHOVAH Psalms.

Verse 1. *Only good is God to Israel:*

To the pure in heart.

"It is exceedingly difficult to say this *only* from the heart. He only can do so, who has come into the sanctuary of God." (Hengstenberg.)

The Psalmist clearly distinguishes between *the circumcised* and *the regenerate*; between *Israel after the flesh* and *Israel after the spirit*. Compare Psalm xxiv. 6. cxxv. 4, 5. The New Testament just as clearly distinguishes between *the baptized* and *the regenerate*. See Rom, viii. 14. 1 JOHN ii. 29. iii. 9. iv. 7. v. 1.

Verse 4. *For they are free from pains :*

And their body is sound and plump.

With Ewald I divide לְמוֹתָם into two words לְמוֹתָם. See Job xxi. 23., where מוֹתָם is used to denote *the perfection of the body*. If we retain the present Hebrew reading, the translation will be—

For they have no pains till their death :

And their body is plump.

The authorized translation is entirely wrong, and is opposed to verse 19.

Verse 10. *Therefore he turns his people hither—*

“The wicked, by his freedom from punishment and his prosperity, prevails on others to leave the right path and adopt his sentiments.”

And abundant waters are quaff’d by them.

“The rich prosperity which the apostates enjoy as the reward of their apostasy appears under the figure of a rich draught presented to the thirsty.” (Hengstenberg.)

PSALM LXXIV.

Verse 2. *Thine inheritance which Thou redeemedst—*

Thine inheritance—Heb. Thine inheritance-rod.

The rod is equivalent to *the land-surveyor’s rod* of Ez. xl. 3, and, like the *lot*, stands for *the inheritance itself*. Compare Deut. xxxii. 9.

Verse 8. *They have burnt all the places of revelation*

Of God in the land.

The Temple is meant, where God met His people.

Compare verse 4, and the singular feminine suffix in verse 6. The Chaldean invasion is referred to: consequently, the Author of the Psalm cannot be the Asaph of David's time, but must be one of his descendants.

Verse 10. *How long, O God, shall the foe reproach,
And the enemy blaspheme Thy Name for ever?*

Compare Ps. xiii. 2. *How long, Jehovah,*

Wilt Thou forget me for ever?

Compare also Ps. lxxix. 5, and lxxxix. 46.

The apparent contradiction between the *how long* and the *for ever* is removed by observing that the question in effect is, "How long shall present appearances last," namely, the appearances that God had forsaken his people for ever.

Verse 15. *Thyself didst cleave both fountain and flood—*
i. e. Thou didst cleave rocks, and bring out fountains and streams.

PSALM LXXV.

This Psalm forms a pair with the following one. Both Psalms refer to the invasion of Sennacherib. This is a song of triumph for the Divine assistance *promised*: the following Psalm celebrates the Divine assistance *obtained*.

Verse 6. *For exaltation comes not*

From the east or the west or the south.

It appears to me that יָרִיב performs a double office in this verse. In the sense of *exaltation* it supplies the

sentence with a subject. In the sense of *mountains* מִיָּדְבָר is in regimen with it.

The mountainous districts of Idumæa and Arabia are referred to. They were situated to the *south* of Canaan, and on this side *Egypt* lay.

PSALM LXXVI.

This Psalm forms a pair with the preceding, and refers to the Assyrian catastrophe.

Verse 3. *There brake he the glittering arrows—*
*The glittering arrows—*Heb. *the flames of the bow*. Compare Job xxxix. 33. Neh. iii. 3, and Deut. xxxii. 41.

The shield, the sword, and the war.

The Assyrian catastrophe put an end at one stroke to the whole war.

Verse 4. *Illustrious art Thou and glorious*
Beyond the plunder-mountains.

On *mountains* as representing *kingdoms*, compare Ps. xli. 2, 3. lxv. 6, and lxviii. 16.

On the epithet *plunder* compare Nah. ii. 11.

Verse 5. *The men of valour are all become powerless.*
 Heb. *they find not their hands*.

Verse 11. *Let gifts be brought to the Dreadful One.*
 That the heathen responded to this exhortation is evident from 2 Chron. xxxii. 23.

Verse 12. *He prunes the breath of princes.*
 The metaphor is taken from a *vine-dresser*.

PSALM LXXVII.

This Psalm appears to have been written soon after the captivity of the ten tribes, probably in the reign of Josiah.

Verse 1. *I WILL cry to God with my voice—*

Heb. *My voice is to God, and I WILL cry.*

Verse 2. *My hand hung open at night, and ceased not.*

“The stretched out *weak and powerless* hand conveys the picture of relaxation of the whole body.” (Hengstenberg.)

My soul refused to be comforted.

Compare Gen. xxxvii. 35, where it is said of Jacob, when he got intelligence of the death of Joseph, that “*he refused to be comforted.*” “On comparing verse 15, it is clear that the Psalmist had before his eyes the second loss of his son Joseph which Jacob suffered, viz. the destruction of the kingdom of the ten tribes.” (Hengstenberg.)

Verse 10. *Then I said, “It is mine infirmity :*

“The years of the right hand of the Most High.”

“The two clauses supplement each other.—*The years of the right-hand of the Most High* are in themselves only the years which the right-hand of the Most High has brought in. Their more immediate limitation as *years of suffering* is got from the first clause. Compare 1 Pet. v. 6, where *the mighty hand of God* is limited by the connection to be His *punishing hand.*” (Hengstenberg)

Verse 15. *The sons of Jacob and Joseph.*

“ The naming of Joseph next to Jacob stands in reference to the ten tribes, whose head was Ephraim descended from one of the sons of Joseph, (compare Ps. lxxviii. 67. lxxx. 1.) and shows how much the loss went to the Psalmist’s heart, and how he saw in the history a pledge of their deliverance.” (Hengstenberg.)

Verse 19. *Thy footsteps were not known.*

As soon as the Israelites had crossed, the waters returned, and covered the Egyptians.

PSALM LXXVIII.

This Psalm was composed by the famous Asaph of David’s time. It directs the attention of Israel to the events of the time of Moses in the way of warning. Renewed apostasy would provoke renewed judgment. In particular, the Israelites are warned against rebelling against the sanctuary in Sion and the dominion of David and his tribe. To this danger the Ephraimites were peculiarly exposed.

Verse 4. *From their children we will not withhold them.* The Psalmist says “ *their children*,” though he means “ *our children*.” “ His object is to point out the duty of transmitting : what we have got from our fathers we owe to our children, inasmuch as they did not hand it to us for our sakes only, but generally for their children’s.” (Hengstenberg.)

Verse 9. *The children of Ephraim were cowardly bowmen :*

They turned back in the day of battle.

This is said in a figurative sense. Compare verse 57. *The children of Ephraim* represent the whole of Israel, as they were during the period of the Judges the ruling tribe.

Verse 12. *He did wonders before their fathers*

In the land of Egypt—

On the plain of Zoan.

Compare verse 43. Zoan, or Tanis, was the ancient royal city of Egypt. We learn from Num. xiii. 22. that it was built seven years after Hebron. It was on the banks of the Nile, in Lower Egypt, and near to Goshen.

Verse 32. *With all this they sinned yet more :*

Nor believed for His wondrous works.

This refers to the conduct of the Israelites after the return of the spies. Compare Num. xiv. 11.

Verse 33. *So their days He consumed in vanity ,*

And their years in terror.

“ The *vanity* denotes the useless character of their existence, and the entire state of helplessness into which they were brought. The *terror* refers to the extraordinary tokens of Divine wrath which broke in upon them, and by which they were hurried off the earth.”

(Hengstenberg.) There is a play upon *הַתְּבֵלָה* and *הַתְּהִלָּה*

Verse 41. *And they tempted God anew :*

And branded the Holy one of Israel.

The Psalmist now notices the similarity of the Israelites during the period of the Judges to their fathers. They were equally rebellious and refractory.

—*branded*—i. e. *set a black mark upon.*

Verse 56. *And they tempted and grieved the Most High God :*

And did not observe His testimonies.

See Judges ii. 11. and following verses.

Verse 66. *And He struck His enemies back—*

i. e. He struck them and drove them backwards. An instance of *locutio pregnans*. Compare Psalm lxxiv. 7. *they desecrate to the ground*—i. e. they desecrate by casting down to the ground.

Verse 71. *To feed His people Jacob,*

And Israel His inheritance.

The Israelites are thus cautioned against resisting the Divine ordinance which had secured the dominion to David and his tribe.

PSALM LXXIX.

This Psalm refers to the Chaldean invasion, and is closely related to Psalm lxxiv.

Verse 5. *How long, Jehovah,*

Wilt Thou be angry for ever ?

For an explanation of the apparent contradiction in this question, see note to Psalm lxxiv. 9.

PSALM LXXX.

This Psalm is closely related to Psalm lxxvii. and expresses the painful feelings awakened in Judah's mind by the captivity of the ten tribes.

It is of importance to attend to the title of this Psalm. *To the Chief Musician*, shows that the Psalmist is acting as the organ of the whole Church. *On lilies*, is equivalent to *on what is lovely*, namely, *the lovely salvation of the Lord*. The play on *לְשׁוֹן יִשְׁעֶיךָ* in verse 2, and *נִי־שֶׁעָרָךְ* in verses 7 and 19 must not be overlooked. Compare a similar play in Psalm lxi. *A testimony* is equivalent in this place to *a testimony on the way of obtaining deliverance*.

Verse 1. *Give ear, Thou Shepherd of Israel,
Who ledest Joseph, as sheep.*

Thou Shepherd of Israel points to Gen. xlviii. 15. and xlix. 24. where in Joseph's blessing God is named the Shepherd of Israel. In the second clause *Joseph* stands for *the Ten Tribes*.

Shine forth, Thou who sittest enthroned on the cherubim. *Shine forth* alludes to the resplendent symbol of the presence of God during the march through the wilderness.

Verse 2. *Before Ephraim, Benjamin, Manasseh,*

Stir up Thy strength, and come to our help.

During the journeying of the camp in the wilderness the usual place of the Ark was in the centre of Israel's hosts. The Kohathites bore the sanctuary, and were immediately followed by the tribes of Ephraim, Manasseh and Benjamin. See Numbers x. 13—28. The word *sanctuary* is used in Num. iv. 15. for the Ark itself.

In the revolt from the house of David the main body of Benjamin united with Joseph.

Verses 10. and 11. *With its shadow the mountains
were cover'd :*

With its tendrils the cedars of God.

It sent forth its boughs to the sea :

And its shoots to the river.

The *mountains* are those on the *southern* boundary of Canaan, which for steepness resemble a *wall* : the *cedars* are those of Lebanon on the *north* : the *sea* is the Mediterranean on the *west* : the *river* the Euphrates on the *east*.

Verse 13. *The boar of the forest gnaws it,*

And what moves on the field doth browse on it.

The *boar of the forest* is the Assyrian king. *What moves on the field* is the mass of nations serving under him. Compare Psalm l. 11.

Verse 15. *Maintain what Thy Right hand hath planted :*

*And the Son whom Thou hast made strong for
Thyself.*

In this verse and in the 17th the allusion is to *Benjamin*, the son of the right hand. But a *Greater than Benjamin* is here. Viewing the words apart from the context, they may be applied to Christ, the true Benjamin.

Verse 18. *We will not turn back from Thee.*

“The guilt of Israel,” says Hengstenberg, “is very tenderly touched. The Psalmist has no intention of acting the part of Job’s friends. He follows the admonition of Job :

Have pity upon me :

Have pity upon me, my friends :

For the hand of God is upon me.

God has undertaken to *rebuke*, verse 16. and therefore His servants may well be silent."

PSALM LXXXI.

This Psalm was composed by the famous Asaph. It exhorts to celebrate the passover with joyful heart. It points to what the Lord has done for Israel, and to the position which Israel ought to occupy towards their Lord.

Verse 2. *Raise the song, and give the timbrel—the timbrel*, i. e. *the sound of the timbrel*.

Verse 3. *Blow in the month the horn.*

By *the month* is meant *the month Abib*, which is so called *par excellence*. The *trumpet* here mentioned is that with which the year of jubilee was announced, and which was blown at the siege of Jericho. It had the form of *a horn*, and indeed seems to have been *a ram's horn* hollowed. See Josh. vi. 4. It is called *shophar* in Hebrew, and is to be distinguished from the silver trumpets mentioned in Num. x. 2. These latter are called *chatzotzeroth*.

At the full of the moon, on the day of the feast. מלל signifies *full moon*, because the moon is then covered with light. *The feast is the passover.*

Verse 5. *When he crossed the land of Egypt.*

"The people, led on by God, traversed freely the whole land of Egypt, a passage having been afforded them in consequence of the broken and terrified state of the inhabitants." (Calvin.) Compare Num. xxxiii. 4. "The

children of Israel went out with a high hand before all the Egyptians." Also Exodus xiv. 8.

Verse 6. *His hands were set free from the basket.*

i. e. *from the burden-basket.* Compare Exodus vi. 6, 7. *Rossolini* gives a drawing of these baskets from a picture discovered in a tomb at Thebes. "Of the labourers," says he, "some are employed in transporting the clay in vessels, some in intermingling it with the straw; others are taking the bricks out of the form, and placing them in rows; still others with a piece of wood upon their backs, and ropes on each side, carry away the bricks already burned or dried. Their dissimilarity to the Egyptians appear at the first view: their complexion, physiognomy and beard permit us not to be mistaken in supposing them to be Hebrews."

Verse 7. *In the thunder-cover I heard thee.*

Compare Hab. iii. 4.

PSALM LXXXII.

Probably the Asaph who composed this Psalm was the Asaph of David's time. He shows the wicked judges of Israel what they have to do with the title *Elohim*. In the conclusion of the Psalm sentence is denounced upon them.

Verse 1. *In the midst of the gods He judges.*

Judges are styled *Elohim* in Ex. xxi. 6; xxii. 9, and according to the authorized version in Ex. xxii. 28. But probably the first clause of this verse should be

translated, *Thou shalt not revile God*. In the Pentateuch an individual person, though not a judge, if representing God, is dignified with the name *Elohim*. See Ex. iv. 16; vii. 1. On this principle Hengstenberg contends that the fifth commandment belongs to the *first* table. Compare Lev. xix. 32.

Verse 6. *As for me, I have said ye are gods :*

And sons of the Highest, all of you.

See preceding note.

Verse 7. *But ye shall die like men :*

And fall like one of the princes.

A violent death is here threatened, a cutting off in the midst of their days.

PSALM LXXXIII.

This Psalm is entitled *A song of praise*, and is a song of triumph sung before the victory. It is a *Psalm of Asaph*, i. e. composed by one of his family, probably Jehaziel. See 1 Chron. xx. 14. It is cognate with Psalm xlvii. and xlviii.; and refers to the war of Jehosaphat against the Edomites, Moabites, Ammonites, and their allies. Hengstenberg observes, that "it makes mention of God *in the midst of danger*, whilst the forty-seventh Psalm was sung after the discomfiture of the enemy *on the field of battle*, and the forty-eighth at the thanksgiving service *in the temple*." See 2 Chron. xx. 1—21.

Verse 8. *They assist the sons of Lot.*

They assist—Heb. *they are an arm to*—The ringleaders in the conspiracy were the Edomites and the sons of Lot, namely, the Moabites and the Ammonites. Seven other nations joined the confederacy.

Verse 11. *Make them, their nobles, as Oreb and Zeeb :*

And all their princes

As Zebah and Salmunna.

Their nobles is expository of *them*. See Judges vii. 25. viii. 5—10. xii. 18—21.

PSALM LXXXIV.

The contents of this Psalm are nearly akin to those of Ps. lxiii., which was composed by David in the time of Absalom. It is still more closely related to Psalms xlii. and xliii. ; being composed, as they were, by the sons of Korah from the soul of the Anointed.

The Psalm was to be played, like Ps. viii., *on the Gath harp*. “The Gittith,” says Arud, “was a spiritual musical instrument, which sounded pleasantly and joyfully. The ancients did not play all the Psalms on the same instrument, but they varied according to the strain of each Psalm. What should we learn from this? That our heart, mouth, and tongue should be the true spiritual musical instruments of God, the pleasant harps and the good sounding cymbals, both mournful and joyful instruments according to the dispensation of God and the times.” Accordingly, the Psalm is pathetic, yet *joyful*.

*a, the sparrow hath found a house,
And the swallow a nest for herself,
Where she lays her young :
Thine altar, JEHOVAH of Hosts,
My King and my God.*

We have here an abbreviated comparison, which assumes the form of a metaphor. The *sparrow* and *swallow* are the Psalmist's *soul*, which *lays its young*, i. e. *deposits its dearest possessions*, in the house of JEHOVAH. The servants of the Lord dwell always spiritually with Him in His temple. Compare Ps. xxiii. 6 ; xxvii. 4 ; xxxvi. 8 ; lxxv. 4.

Verse 5. *In whose heart are roads.*

The natural heart is a pathless wilderness, full of cliffs and precipices. When the heart is renewed by grace, *a road is made, a highway is prepared for our God.* See Isa. xl. 3, 4.

PSALM LXXXV.

The date of this Psalm cannot be determined.

Verse 1. *The captive sons of Jacob—*

Heb. *the captivity of Jacob*. The abstract is used for the concrete. *Misery* seems to be meant by *captivity*.

Verse 11. *Righteousness looks from heaven—*

And pours down blessings on the people of God. Compare Is. xiv. 8.

Verse 13. *Righteousness goes before Him :*

And makes her footsteps a way.

Compare Is. li. 10. Ps. xxiii. 3.

PSALM LXXXVI.

This Psalm is entitled, *A prayer—song of David*, and refers to the time of Absalom. “It is very probable that it was sung by the sons of Korah from the soul of David, when they accompanied him in his banishment. This was manifestly the case with Psalms xlii. xliii. and lxxxiv. ; and the composition by the sons of Korah is determined in the case before us, from the position of the Psalm in the middle of the Korahitic Psalms, from which the title got its necessary *supplement*. The prayer, however, is David’s, not only because it was intended for him, and was sung from his soul, but also because the poem is interwoven throughout with quotations from the Davidic Psalms.—The tenderness of feeling which characterizes the other Psalms which the sons of Korah sang to their afflicted king, is so very marked in this instance, that it is impossible to overlook it.” (Hengstenberg.)

Verse 14, is literally copied from Ps. liv. 3 ; only for אֲנִי וְזָרִים *strangers* we have אֲנִי וְזָרִים *proud*, and for *the violent, the hand of the violent*.

Verse 16. *And help the son of Thy handmaid.*
The son of a handmaid is a home-born slave. See Ex. xxiii. 12. “As it is incumbent upon the servant that he serve the Lord, it is the duty of the Lord to *help* and protect the servant.” (Hengstenberg.)

PSALM LXXXVII.

In this Psalm the very *words* are *numbered*. The number of words in the several verses are as follows : 7. 7. 5. 12. 7. 7. 5. The title is included in the first verse. In verse 5, *אֵיִשׁ וְאֵיִשׁ* is reckoned as one word, and in like manner *אֶל־בָּרֶךְ*. The total number of words is 50.

The Psalm was occasioned by the joyful events *under Hezekiah*. Egypt had already been called *Rahab* (*haughtiness, pride*.) by Isaiah. See Isa. xxx. 7. Babylon was then first known as a rising power. Ethiopia united with Egypt against Sennacherib. See Isa. xxxvii. 9. "Isaiah in chap. xiv. 29, threatens the Philistines with dreadful misery from the Assyrians, and it is evident from chap. xx. 1, that this threatening was fulfilled. Rich Tyre would in all probability come in next after Judah.—Some passages also remind us very strikingly of Isaiah." (Hengstenberg.)

Verse 1. *His founded city*—
i. e. the city which Jehovah hath founded. See Is. xiv. 32. liv. 11.

Verse 4. *As those that know Me*.
Heb. *for those that know me*. The Hebrew *לִּי* like the English *for* has the sense of *as*. It is so used in Ps. cxxxix. 22. *They are as my personal enemies*.

These nations were born there.

And verse 5. *They each and all were born in her*.

A person embracing the Jewish religion was said to be born again, and to become as a little child. In the Talmud is the following illustration of the subject : " A stranger when he becomes a proselyte is as a little child who is just born."

The present is almost the only passage in the Old Testament in which the embracing the true religion is represented as being born again ; it may be compared with Is. lxvi. 8. Hengstenberg translates Job xi. 12. thus :

And the vain man shall be wise ;

And the wild ass born a man.

The passage before us seems to refer to millennial times. The conversion of *nations* is spoken of. Amongst these nations will be many individuals who will not be converted, or born again in the highest sense. This we learn from such passages as Ps. xviii. 45. *The sons of the stranger feign to me.*

And Ps. lxvi. 3. *Through the power of Thy might*

Thy foes shall pretend to submit to Thee.

This latter passage may be rendered more concisely thus :

Thy foes shall feign to Thee :

through the power of Thy might.

PSALM LXXXVIII.

This Psalm and the following are *two parts of one whole*. Taken by itself, the Psalm is anything but a

song of praise. It is so doleful, that there is nothing like it in all the Scriptures. Instead of the sun breaking out at the close, the Psalm ends in midnight.

The title is common to the two Psalms *as a whole*, with the exception of the words *A Lesson of Heman the Ezrahite*; this portion of the title belonging to the present Psalm, just as *A Lesson of Ethan the Ezrahite* belongs to the following Psalm.

Verse 4. *I am as a man without strength—*
i. e. a dead man.

Verse 5. *Discarded among the dead—*
Discarded—Heb. free. In 2 Kings xv. 5, and 2 Chron. xxvi. 21, we read of "*the house of freedom*," which was *the house where the lepers dwelt*, those who were likened to the dead, struck off from the roll of the servants of God. The remark which follows in Chronicles, "for he, Uzziah, was cut off from the house of ЈЕHOVAH," is exactly parallel to what follows in our Psalm,

Who are cut off from Thy hand.

Verse 10. *Will shadows stand up and praise Thee?*
Shadows—Heb. Rephaim. "The *Rephaim* were a Canaanitish giant-race, whose name was applied to the shades of the lower world. Contact with them is something terrible to the sufferer; the spirits of the deceased are represented to the imagination as possessed of a gigantic form; Compare 1 Sam. xxviii. 13, where the witch of Endor, on the appearance of Samuel, says, "*I behold a god ascending out of the earth.*" (Hengstenberg.)

This is an exemplification of the adage, *Omne ignotum pro magnifico*.

Verse 15. *I resign myself to despair.*

Heb. I *WILL* despair.

PSALM LXXXIX.

This Psalm forms a pair with the preceding: they are two parts of one great whole. Both Psalms were composed by the sons of Korah, who put the contents of the two Psalms into the mouths of Heman and Ethan respectively, that they might "raise up seed" to the childless and sages. Ethan is the same as Jeduthun; he was a Levite of the family of the Merarites. See 1 Chron. vi. 29, xv. 17. Heman was a grandchild of Samuel, and a Levite of the family of the Kohathites. See 1 Chron. vi. 18, xv. 27. Asaph was a Levite of the family of the Gershonites. See 1 Chron. vi. 24—28. Heman and Ethan were not descended from Zerah the son of Judah: they were received into his family as his adopted sons. Hence they are called Ezrahites. They are named in 1 Kings v. 11, and in 1 Chron. ii. 5; and in 1 Kings iv. 31, it is said of Solomon: "And he was wiser than all men, than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, and Kalcol, and Dardah." In 1 Chron. xxv. 5, Heman is called "the king's seer in the words of God."

Verse. 2. *In the heavens Thou maintainest thy faithfulness—*

in order that it may partake of their eternity, and be like them eternal. Compare Ps. cxix. 89.

Thy word stands fast in heaven.

Verse 12. *Tabor and Hermon rejoice in Thy Name.*

Tabor and Hermon stand for the east and west, Tabor lying on one side of Jordan, and Hermon on the other.

Verse 15. *Happy the people who know the shout—* the acclamation with which Israel shouted to God their King and Saviour, with the mouth and with trumpets, at the regular periodical festivals, and on extraordinary occasions, as in war. See Num. xxiii. 21. x. 9. Josh. vi. 5, 20. 1 Sam. iv. 5—6. 2 Sam. vi. 15.

Verse 19. *At that time Thou spakest in vision*

To Thy saints, and didst say—

To Thy saints—So the Vulgate, Jerome, the Prayer-Book Version, and 70 MSS. The LXX. also has the plural, *To Thy sons*. Compare verses 3, 4.

The revelation which God made to and by Nathan was intended for the people, here styled *God's saints*.

Help I have laid on a warrior :

I have lifted a youth from the people.

The passage culminates in Christ the true David, the eternally youthful warrior, whom God hath made the Depository of His help.

As the moon shall he be establish'd for ever :

And the witness in heaven is constant.

The parallelism shows that the moon is referred to in the second hemistich. In Rev. xii. the Church is represented as adorned with the moon.

Verse 46.

How long, JEHOVAH,

Wilt Thou hide Thyself for ever?

Compare Ps. xiii. 2. lxxiv. 10. lxxix. 5, and the note on Ps. lxxiv. 10.

Verse 51. *The footsteps of Thine anointed—*

him, wherever he goes, and wherever he stands.

THE BOOK OF PSALMS.

PART IV.

PSALM XC. TO CVI. INCLUSIVE.

PART IV.

PSALM XC. TO CVI. INCLUSIVE.

PSALM XC.

A PRAYER OF MOSES THE MAN OF GOD.

I.

- 1 Lord, Thou *art* to us
A home for all generations,
2 Before the hills were brought forth,
And thou formedst the earth and the world,
From eternity to eternity,
Thou *dost exist*, O God.
3 Thou turnest frail man to shivers, and sayest :
“ Return, ye sons of Adam.”
4 For a thousand years in Thine eyes
Are as yesterday, when just ended :
And *as* a watch in the night.
5 As with a torrent of rain
Thou carriest them away :
They are *as* a sleep : in the morning
Like grass he passes away.

II.

- 6 In the morning he blooms, and passes away :
In the evening is cut down, and withers.
7 For we are consumed in Thine anger :
And in Thy wrath are terrified.
8 Thou settest our sins before Thee :
Our secret *sin* in the light of Thy countenance.
9 For all our days decline through Thy wrath :
We complete our years, as a muttering.
10 As for the days of our years,
They are threescore years and ten :
Or, if *we be* strong, they are fourscore.
But their pride is trouble and misery :
For it is soon cut off ;
And we are flown.

III.

- 11 Who knows the strength of Thine anger
And wrath with the fear that is due to Thee ?
12 So teach us to number our days,
As t' attain a heart of wisdom.

IV.

- 13 Turn back, JEHOVAH : how long ?
And repent concerning Thy servants.
14 Do Thou in the morning
Satisfy us with Thy mercy :
And we will rejoice right gladly,
And be joyful all our days.

- 15 Gladden us like to the days
 Wherein Thou hast afflicted us :
 The years we have seen calamity.
- 16 Let Thy deeds be shown to Thy servants :
 And Thy majesty unto their children.
- 17 And may the beauty
 Of JEHOVAH our God be upon us :
 And the work of our hands confirm on us :
 Yea, the work of our hands confirm.

STROPHE—DIVISION 5. 5. 2. 5.=10. 7.=12. 5.

PSALM XCI.

I.

- 1 HE that dwells in the secret place of the Highest,
 And abides beneath the shade of th' Almighty :
- 2 I habitually say of JEHOVAH ;
 “ My Confidence and my Fortress :
 “ My God : in Him do I trust.”

II.

- 3 For He Himself will deliver thee
 From the snare of the fowler :
 The pestilence of wickedness.
- 4 He will cover thee with His feathers ;
 And under His wings may'st thou trust :
 His truth, thy shield and buckler.
- 5 Thou needest not fear the terror of night ;

- Nor the arrow flying by day :
6 Nor the pestilence walking in darkness ;
Nor the sickness wasting at noon.
7 A thousand may fall at thy side ;
And a myriad at thy right hand :
Yet it shall not touch thee.
8 Thou shalt only look on with thine eyes :
And see the reward of the wicked.
9 For Thou art my trust, JEHOVAH :
Thou makest the Highest thy Home.

III.

- 10 There shall no evil befall thee :
Nor plague come nigh thy dwelling.
11 For He charges His angels concerning thee,
To keep thee in all thy ways.
12 They shall bear thee up in their hands,
That thou dash not thy foot on a stone.
13 Thou shall trample on lions and adders :
Thou shall tread on young lions and dragons.
14 Because he cleaves to Me, I will deliver him :
I will set him on high,
Because he knows My Name.
15 He shall call on Me, and I will answer him :
I am with him in trouble :
I will save him, yea, I will honour him.
16 With long life will I satisfy him :
And show him My salvation.

STROPHE—DIVISION 2. 7. 7.

PSALM XCII.

A PSALM.

A SONG OF PRAISE FOR THE SABBATH-DAY.

I.

- 1 It is good to sing praise to JEHOVAH ;
 And to hymn to Thy Name, Most High :
 2 To proclaim in the morning Thy mercy ;
 And Thy faithfulness in the night-season :
 3 On ten strings and on the lute ;
 With musing upon the harp.
 4 For Thou makest me glad with Thy doings,
 JEHOVAH :
 I will sing of the works of Thy hands.
 5 How great are Thy works, JEHOVAH :
 Thy thoughts are deep exceedingly.
 6 A brutish man knoweth not this :
 A fool understandeth it not.
 7 When the wicked spring up as grass,
 And all evil-doers do flourish ;
 It is for eternal destruction.

II.

- 8 Thou art Height for ever, JEHOVAH.

III.

- 9 For lo, Thy foes, JEHOVAH !
 For lo, Thy foes shall perish,
 And all evil-doers be scatter'd.

- 10 And Thou dost exalt my horn,
 Like *the horn of* a buffalo :
 I sprinkle *my head* with fresh oil.
- 11 Mine eye doth look on mine enemies :
 Mine ears do hear of the wicked,
 Who rise up against me.
- 12 The righteous doth sprout like a palm-tree :
 He grows like a cedar in Lebanon.
- 13 In JEHOVAH's house they are planted :
 In the courts of our God they flourish.
- 14 They still put forth shoots in old age ;
 They are full of sap and verdure :
- 15 To show that JEHOVAH my Rock is upright ;
 And in Him is no unrighteousness.

STROPHE—DIVISION 7. 1. 7.

PSALM XCIII.

I.

- 1 JEHOVAH reigns ! He puts on majesty :
 JEHOVAH puts on, girds on, strength.
 The earth also standeth firm :
 It doth not move.
- 2 From of old Thy throne is establish'd :
 Thou art from everlasting.

II.

- 3 The floods lift up, JEHOVAH :
 The floods lift up their voice :
 The floods lift up their din.

- 4 JEHOVAH on high is more magnificent
 Than the voices of many magnificent waters :
 Than the waves of the sea.

III.

- 5 Very trustworthy are Thy testimonies :
 Holiness graces
 Thy house, JEHOVAH, for ever.

STROPHE—DIVISION 2. 2. 1. *Total number of verses
 of this Psalm and the preceding one conjointly, 20.*

PSALM XCIV.

I.

- 1 THE God of vengeance shineth forth :
 JEHOVAH, the God of vengeance.

II.

- 2 Lift up Thyself, Thou Judge of the earth :
 Render the proud a recompense.
 3 How long shall the wicked, JEHOVAH,
 How long shall the wicked triumph ?
 4 They sputter words of impudence :
 All evil-doers brag.
 5 They grind Thy people, JEHOVAH :
 And afflict Thy heritage.
 6 They slay the widow and stranger :
 And murder the fatherless.

- 7 And they say, "JEHOVAH sees not :
 " And the God of Jacob observes not."

III.

- 8 Consider, ye brutish among the people :
 O fools, when will ye be wise ?
9 He who planted the ear, doth He not hear ?
 He who form'd the eye, doth He not see ?
10 He who warns the heathen, and teaches man
 knowledge,
 Shall He not punish ?
11 JEHOVAH knows the thoughts of man,
 That the best of them are vain.

IV.

- 12 Happy the man,
 Whom Thou, JEHOVAH, admonishest :
 And teachest out of Thy law.
13 To give him rest from the days of evil :
 Till the pit be digg'd for the wicked.
14 For JEHOVAH will not reject His people :
 He will not forsake His inheritance.
15 For the right will return to righteousness :
 All the upright in heart will follow it.

V.

- 16 Who will rise up for me
 Against the evil-doers ?
 Who will stand up for me
 'Gainst those who work iniquity ?

- 17 Had not JEHOVAH help'd me,
 Very soon my soul would have dwelt in silence.
- 18 If I say, "My foot doth slide,"
 Thy mercy, JEHOVAH, upholds me.
- 19 In my multitudinous thoughts within me,
 Thy comforts delight my soul.
- 20 Hath the throne of iniquity fellowship with Thee,
 Which enacteth suff'ring by law ?
- 21 They gather together in troops
 Against the soul of the righteous :
 And condemn the innocent blood.
- 22 But JEHOVAH is my Height :
 And my God the Rock of my confidence.
- 23 Their unrighteousness will He cause to recoil on
 them.
- Because of their wickedness will He destroy the m :
 JEHOVAH our God will destroy them.

STROPHE—DIVISION 1. 6. 4. 4. 8.—1. 10. 12.
 =1. 22.

PSALM XCV.

I.

- 1 O COME, let us sing to JEHOVAH :
 Let us shout to the Rock of our salvation.
- 2 Prevent we His presence with hymns :
 Shout we to Him with psalms.

- 3 For JEHOVAH is a great God :
A great King above all gods.
4 In His hands are the mines of the earth :
And the stores of the mountains are His.
5 The sea is His, and He made it :
And His hands did spread out the dry land.

II.

- 6 O come, let us fall down and worship :
And kneel to JEHOVAH our Maker.

III.

- 7 For He is our God : and we
Are His pasture-people, and sheep of His hand.
To-day, if ye will hear His voice,
8 Harden not ye your heart,
As at Meribah ; as in the day
Of Massah in the wilderness :
9 When your fathers tempted *and* proved Me.
Moreover they saw My doing.
10 Forty years was I disgusted
With *that* generation, and said :
“ They are people of erring heart,
“ And they know not My ways.”
11 So that I swear in My wrath :
“ They shall not enter My rest.”

STROPHE—DIVISION 5. 1. 5.

PSALM XCVI.

I.

- 1 SING a new song to JEHOVAH :
Sing to JEHOVAH, all the earth.
- 2 Sing to JEHOVAH : bless His Name :
Declare the glad news of His salvation
From day to day.
- 3 Record 'mong the heathen His glory :
His wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For JEHOVAH is great,
And to be praised exceedingly :
Terrible is He, above all gods.
- 5 For all the gods of the peoples are nullities :
But JEHOVAH made the heavens.
- 6 Before Him are splendour and majesty :
Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.

II.

- 7 Ascribe to JEHOVAH, ye heathen families,
Ascribe to JEHOVAH glory and strength.
- 8 Ascribe to JEHOVAH the glory of His Name :
Bring gifts, and enter His courts.
- 9 Worship JEHOVAH in holy adornment :
Tremble before Him, all the earth.
- 10 Say 'mong the heathen, " JEHOVAH reigneth :
" The world also standeth firm ;
" It doth not move :
" He judgeth the people in equity."

- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and the earth be glad :
 Let the sea and its fulness roar.
- 12 Let the field exult, and all that is in it :
 Then all the trees of the forest
 Shall sing for joy

III.

- 13 Before JEHOVAH, because He cometh,
 Because He cometh to judge the earth :
 He will judge the world in righteousness,
 And the peoples in faithfulness.

STROPHE—DIVISION 6. 6. 1. *Total number of verses
 in this Psalm and the preceding one conjointly, 24.*

PSALM XCVII.

I.

- 1 JEHOVAH reigns ! let the earth rejoice :
 Let the numerous isles be glad.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about Him :
 Justice and judgment, the site of His throne.
- 3 Before Him goes a fire :
 And burns up His foes on all sides.

II.

- 4 His lightnings illumine the world :
 The earth, it sees and trembles.

- 5 The mountains melt like wax
 From before JEHOVAH :
From before the Lord of all the earth.
6 The heavens declare His righteousness :
 All nations see His glory.

III.

- 7 Confounded are all who worship idols :
 Who pride themselves in nullities :
 Worship Him, all ye gods !
8 Sion hears and rejoices ;
 And the daughters of Judah exult :
 Because of Thy judgments, JEHOVAH.
9 For Thou, JEHOVAH, art high
 Above all the earth :
 Thou art exalted far
 Above all gods.

IV.

- 10 Ye who love JEHOVAH, hate what is evil :
 He preserves the souls of His saints :
 From the hand of the wicked He rescues them.
11 Light is sown for the righteous :
 And for the upright, joy.
12 Rejoice in JEHOVAH, ye righteous :
 And praise His holy Memorial.

STROPHE—DIVISION 3. 3. 3.=12.

PSALM XCVIII.

A PSALM.

I.

- 1 SING a new song to JEHOVAH,
For He hath done marvellous deeds :
His right-hand and Holy arm
Have wrought salvation for Him.
- 2 JEHOVAH makes known His salvation :
His righteousness hath He display'd
Before the eyes of the heathen.
- 3 He hath remember'd His mercy ;
To the house of Israel, His faithfulness :
All the ends of the earth have seen
The salvation of our God.

II.

- 4 Shout to JEHOVAH, all the earth :
Break forth, and rejoice, and sing.
- 5 Hymn to JEHOVAH with harp :
With harp and the voice of song.
- 6 With trumpets and voice of clarionet,
Rejoice before JEHOVAH the King.

III.

- 7 Let the sea and its fulness roar :
The world and the dwellers therein.

- 8 Let the rivers clap *their* hands,
 And the mountains rejoice together,
 9 Before JEHOVAH :
 For He comes to judge the earth.
 He will judge the world in righteousness :
 And the nations in uprightness.

STROPHE—DIVISION 3. 3. 3.

PSALM XCIX.

I.

- 1 JEHOVAH reigns ! the nations tremble.
 He who sits on the cherubim ! the earth doth shake.

II.

- 2 JEHOVAH is great in Sion :
 High is HE above all nations.
 3 They shall praise Thy great and terrible Name :
 (Holy is He :)
 4 And the strength of the King who loves right.
 Thyself hast founded equity :
 Thyself hast executed
 Right and justice in Jacob.
 5 Exalt JEHOVAH our God :
 And bow before His footstool :
 Holy is He.

III.

- 6 Moses and Aaron among His priests,
And Samuel 'mong those who call on His Name :
They call'd on JEHOVAH, and Himself did answer
them.
- 7 In the cloudy pillar He spake to them :
They kept His testimonies,
And the statute He gave them.
- 8 JEHOVAH our God, Thyself didst answer them :
A forgiving God Thou wast to them :
An avenging *God* for their wicked actions.
- 9 Exalt JEHOVAH our God :
And bow before His holy mountain :
For JEHOVAH our God is holy.

STROPHE—DIVISION 1. 4. 4.

PSALM C.

A PSALM OF THANKSGIVING.

I.

- 1 SHOUT to JEHOVAH, all the earth.

II.

- 2 Serve JEHOVAH with joy :
Enter His presence with singing.
- 3 Know that JEHOVAH is God :
Himself hath made us—and not we ourselves—
His people, and sheep of His pasture.

- 4 Enter His gates with thanksgiving :
 His courts with praise.
 Be thankful to Him, *and* bless His Name.
- 5 For JEHOVAH is good :
 His mercy is everlasting :
 And His faithfulness *reaches* to all generations.

STROPHE—DIVISION 1. 4. *Total number of verses in this and the preceding Psalm conjointly, 14.*

PSALM CI.

A PSALM OF DAVID.

I.

- 1 I WILLINGLY sing of mercy and judgment :
 I WILLINGLY hymn to Thee, JEHOVAH.

II.

- 2 I WILL walk wisely in a way of blamelessness :
 When wilt Thou come to me ?
 I will walk in the midst of my house
 In the blamelessness of my heart.
- 3 I will set no wicked action
 Before mine eyes :
 I hate the deeds of transgressors :
 They shall not cleave to me.
- 4 A froward heart shall depart from me :
 I will not know a wicked one.

III.

- 5 Whoso slanders his neighbour secretly,
 Him will I destroy :
 The lofty in look and the proud in heart
 I will not endure.
- 6 Mine eyes are upon the faithful
 In the land, that they may dwell with me :
 He that walks in the way of blamelessness,
 He, *even* he, shall serve me.
- 7 He that works deceit shall not dwell in my house :
 He that speaketh lies
 Shall not remain in my presence.
- 8 I will extirpate morning by morning
 All the ungodly in the land :
 That I may root out from JEHOVAH's city
 All those who work iniquity.
- STROPHE—DIVISION 1. 3. 4.=4. 4.

PSALM CII.

I.

- 1 A PRAYER of th' afflicted,
 When he is overwhelm'd,
 And pours out his plaint before JEHOVAH.

II.

- 2 JEHOVAH, hear my prayer :
 And let my cry come before Thee.

- 3 Hide not Thy countenance from me
 In the day that I am in trouble :
 Incline Thine ear to me ;
 In the day I call, make haste *and* save me.
- 4 For my days are consumed into smoke :
 And my bones are burnt up, as fire-wood.
- 5 My heart is smitten, and wither'd as grass :
 For I forget to eat my bread.
- 6 Because of the voice of my groaning
 My bones do cleave to my skin.
- 7 I am like to a pelican of the wilderness :
 I resemble an owl of ruins.
- 8 I am sleepless : and am become
 Like a lonely bird on the house-top.
- 9 All day my foes upbraid me :
 My madden'd *enemies* curse by me.
- 10 For I eat ashes as bread ;
 And mingle my drink with my tears ;
- 11 Because of Thy wrath and Thine anger :
 For Thou hast lifted me up,
 And cast me away.

III.

- 12 As a lengthen'd shadow my days :
 And I am wither'd as grass.
- 13 But THOU art enthron'd, JEHOVAH, for ever :
 Thy Memorial *lasts* to all generations.
- 14 THOU wilt arise and yearn for Sion :
 For it is time to be gracious unto her :
 The point of time is come.

- 15 For Thy servants are pleased with her stones :
And compassionate her dust.
- 16 And the heathen shall fear the Name of JEHOVAH :
All kings of the earth Thy glory.
- 17 For Jehovah buildeth Sion :
He appears in His glory.
- 18 He turns to the prayer of the destitute :
And despises not their prayer.

IV.

- 19 This shall be written
For a subsequent generation :
And the people which shall be created
Shall praise JEHOVAH.
- 20 For He looks from His holy height ;
From heaven JEHOVAH looks on the earth :
21 To hear the groan of the prisoner ;
And to relieve the dying.
- 22 That JEHOVAH's Name may be published in Sion ;
And His praise in Jerusalem :
- 23 When the nations are gather'd together ;
And the kingdoms, to serve JEHOVAH.
- 24 He hath weaken'd my strength in the way :
He hath shorten'd my days.
- 25 " Make me not vanish," I say,
" My God, in the midst of my days.
- " Thy years continue through all generations.
- 26 " Of old Thou hast founded the earth :
" And the heavens are the work of Thy hands.

- 27 "THEY shall perish, but THOU remainest :
 " And they all shall wax old as a garment :
 " As a vesture Thou changest them, and they are
 changed.
- 28 "But Thou art the same, and Thy years have no
 end.

V.

- 29 "The sons of Thy servants shall dwell :
 " And their seed be establish'd before Thee."

STROPHE—DIVISION 1. 10. 7. 10. 1.

PSALM CIII.

BY DAVID.

I.

- 1 BLESS JEHOVAH, my soul :
 And all within me, His holy Name.
- 2 Bless JEHOVAH, my soul :
 And forget not all His benefits.
- 3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities :
 Who healeth all thine infirmities.
- 4 Who redeemeth thy life from the grave :
 Who crowns thee with kindness and mercies.
- 5 Who satisfies thy beauty with good :
 That thy youth is renew'd like the eagle.
- 6 JEHOVAH executes righteousness
 And judgment for all the oppress.

- 7 He made known His ways unto Moses:
 His exploits to the children of Israel.
8 JEHOVAH is gracious and merciful :
 Long-suffering and rich in kindness.
9 He doth not always contend :
 He retains not *His anger* for ever.
10 He deals not towards us after our sins :
 Nor requites us after our wickedness.

II.

- 11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
 So great is His mercy to them that fear Him.
12 As far as the east is from the west,
 So far He removes our transgressions from us.
13 As a father compassionates his children,
 So JEHOVAH compassionates those that fear Him.
14 For Himself doth know our frame :
 He remembers that we are dust.
15 Frail man ! his days are as grass :
 As a flower of the fields, he blossoms.
16 For a wind passes over him, and he is gone :
 And his place doth know him no more.
17 But JEHOVAH's kindness *endureth*
 From eternity to eternity
 To those that fear Him ;
 His righteousness also to children's children :
18 To those that keep His covenant,
 And remember His precepts to do them.
19 JEHOVAH hath prepared His throne in heaven :
 And His kingdom rules over all.

- 20 Bless JEHOVAH, His angels,
 Valiant in strength :
 Who perform His word on hearing the sound of it.
- 21 Bless JEHOVAH, all His hosts :
 His servants who do His pleasure.
- 22 Bless JEHOVAH, all His works
 Throughout His dominions :
 Bless JEHOVAH, my soul !
- STROPHE—DIVISION 10. 12.=22.

PSALM CIV.

I.

- 1 Bless JEHOVAH, my soul !
 JEHOVAH my God, Thou art great exceedingly ;
 Thou art clothed with glory and majesty :

II.

- 2 Putting on light as a garment ;
 Spreading out the heavens as a curtain :
- 3 Who buildeth His upper chambers with waters ;
 Who maketh the clouds His chariot ;
 Who rides on the wings of the wind :
- 4 Who maketh the winds His messengers ;
 Flaming fire His ministers.
- 5 He foundeth the earth on its basis :
 It moves not for ever and ever.

III.

- 6 With the deep Thou didst cover it as with a
garment :
The waters stand on the mountains.
- 7 At Thy rebuke they flee :
At the voice of Thy thunder they hurry away.
- 8 They go up to the mountains, and down to the
valleys :
To the place Thou hast founded for them.
- 9 Thou didst set a bound *which* they do not pass :
They return not to cover the earth.
- 10 He sends forth springs in the valleys :
They run among the mountains.
- 11 All beasts of the field do drink *of them* :
The wild asses quench their thirst.
- 12 The birds of heaven dwell by them :
They sing among the leaves.
- 13 He waters the hills from His chambers ;
From the fruit of Thy works the earth is saturated.
- 14 He makes grass to grow for the cattle :
And corn for man's cultivation,
To bring forth bread from the earth.
- 15 Wine also gladdens man's heart,
To make his face shine with oil :
And bread doth strengthen man's heart.
- 16 The trees of *JEHOVAH* are saturated ;
Even Lebanon's cedars, which He hath planted :
- 17 Where the birds do build their nests ;
The stork, he dwells on the cypresses.

IV.

- 18 The high hills are for the chamois :
 The cliffs are the hyrax' refuge.

V.

- 19 He made the moon for seasons :
 The sun, he knows his setting.
20 Thou makest darkness, and it is night :
 Then all the wild beasts of the forest prowl ;
21 The lions roaring for prey,
 And asking meat from God.
22 The sun arises : they gather together,
 And lay them down in their dens.
23 Man goeth forth to his work
 And his labour until the evening.—
24 How manifold, יהוה, Thy works !
 Thou hast made them all in wisdom.
 The earth is full of Thy riches.
25 The sea, also, great and wide :
 Therein move creatures innumerable,
 Living creatures, small and great.
26 Nautili swim there :
 The whale Thou hast form'd to sport there.
27 These wait all upon Thee,
 To give them their food in due season.
28 Thou givest it to them ; they gather it:
 Thou openest Thy hand ; they are fill'd with good.

- 29 Thou hidest Thy face ; they are terrified :
 Thou takest away their breath ;
 They expire and return to dust.
- 30 Thou sendest Thy breath ; they're created ;
 Thou renewest the face of the earth.

VI.

- 31 JEHOVAH's glory endures for ever :
 JEHOVAH exults in His works.
- 32 He looks on the earth, and it trembles :
 He touches the hills, and they smoke.
- 33 I WILL hymn JEHOVAH, as long as I live :
 I WILL hymn my God, as long as I last.
- 34 My musing on Him shall be sweet :
 As for me, I will joy in JEHOVAH.

VII.

- 35 Sinners shall cease from the earth :
 And the wicked shall be no more.
 Praise JEHOVAH, my soul !
 HALLELUIAH !

STROPHE—DIVISION 1. 4. 12. 1. 12. 4. 1.=35.

PSALM CV.

I.

- 1 PRAISE ye JEHOVAH : call on His Name :
 His exploits make known 'mong the nations.

- 2 Sing ye to Him : sing psalms to Him :
Muse ye on all His wonders.
- 3 Let His holy Name be your glory :
Let the heart rejoice
Of those that seek JEHOVAH.
- 4 Enquire for JEHOVAH and His strength :
Seek ye His face continually.
- 5 Remember His wondrous deeds ;
His miracles *also*,
And judgments of His mouth :
- 6 Ye seed of Abraham His servant ;
Ye sons of Jacob His chosen.
- 7 He is JEHOVAH our God :
In all the earth are His judgments.

II.

- 8 He remembers His cov'nant for ever ;
The word He ordain'd
For a thousand generations :
- 9 Which He concluded with Abraham ;
And His oath to Isaac.
- 10 He confirm'd it a law to Jacob ;
An eternal cov'nant, to Israel :
- 11 " To thee the land of Canaan
" I give for your inheritance : "
- 12 When they were small in number ;
Very few, and strangers in it.

III.

- 13 And they went from nation to nation :
From one to another kingdom .

- 14 He suffer'd no man to harm them,
And punish'd kings for their sake :
15 " Touch not Mine anointed ones :
" And do My prophets no harm."
16 Famine He call'd on the land :
He broke every staff of bread.
17 He sent before them a man :
Joseph was sold for a servant.
18 They tormented his feet with fetters ;
His person was bound with iron :
19 Until his word came to pass ;
And the word of JEHOVAH clear'd him.
20 The king *then* sent and releas'd him :
The ruler of nations freed him.
21 He made him lord of his house ;
And ruler of all his possessions :
22 To control with his will his princes ;
And teach his ancients wisdom.

IV.

- 23 And Israel came to Egypt :
And Jacob sojourn'd in the land of Ham.

V.

- 24 And He made His people fruitful exceedingly :
And stronger than their enemies.
25 He turn'd their heart to hate His people :
To plot against His servants.
26 He sent His servant Moses :
And Aaron whom He chose.

- 27 They wrought among them His miracles :
 And signs in the land of Ham.
28 Darkness He sent, and made it dark :
 And His words were not disobeyed.

VI.

- 29 He turn'd their waters to blood ;
 And caus'd their fish to die.
30 Their land, it swarm'd with frogs
 In the chambers of their kings.
31 He spake, and vermin came :
 And gnats in all their borders.
32 He gave *them* hail for their showers :
 And flames of fire in their land.
33 He smote their vines and their fig-trees :
 And brake the trees in their borders.
34 He spake, and the locust came :
 And caterpillars innumerable.
35 They consumed all the grass in their land :
 They consumed the fruit of their field.
36 He smote the first-born throughout their land :
 The prime of all their strength.
37 But them He brought out with silver and gold :
 None stumbled among His tribes.
38 Egypt was glad when they went out :
 For the dread of them fell upon them.

VII.

- 39 He spread out a cloud for a covering :
 And fire to give light by night.

- 40 They ask'd, and He brought *them* quails :
 He fill'd them with bread from heaven.
- 41 He open'd the rock, and waters gushed forth :
 They ran through the desert a river.
- 42 For He remember'd His holy promise
 With Abraham His servant.
- 43 And He led forth His people with joy,
 His chosen with songs of triumph ;
- 44 And gave them the lands of the heathen :
 They possess the toil of the nations :
- 45 That they might keep His statutes,
 And observe His laws.
- HALLELUIAH !

STROPHE—DIVISION 7. 10. 5. 1. 5. 10. 7.=45.

PSALM CVI.

I.

- 1 HALLELUIAH !
 Give praise to JEHOVAH, for He is good :
 For His mercy endureth for ever.
- 2 Who shall express
 JEHOVAH's mighty acts ?
 Or show forth all His praise ?
- 3 Happy are they who keep judgment :
 Who practise righteousness always.

- 4 Remember me, JEHOVAH,
With the favour of Thy people :
Visit me with Thy salvation.
5 Let me see the good of thy chosen ;
Rejoice with the joy of Thy people ;
And glory with Thine inheritance.

II.

- 6 We have sinn'd along with our fathers :
Have transgress'd and acted wickedly.
7 Our fathers in Egypt
Did not duly consider Thy wonders :
They forgot Thy manifold mercies ;
And rebell'd at the sea, the Red Sea.
8 For His Name's sake He deliver'd them ;
To make His greatness known.
9 He rebuk'd the Red Sea, and dried it up :
Through the deep He led them as through the
desert.
10 From the hand of their haters He saved them :
From the enemy's hand He redeem'd them.
11 The waters cover'd their enemies :
There was not one of them left.
12 Then they believ'd in His word :
They sang His praise.

III.

- 13 They quickly forgot His doings :
They waited not for His counsel.

- 14 They lusted *for meat* in the wilderness :
And tempted God in the desert.
- 15 He gave them their desire :
But sent wasting disease against them.
- 16 In the camp they envied Moses :
And Aaron, Jehovah's holy one.
- 17 The earth, it open'd and swallowed up Dathan :
And cover'd Abiram's company.
- 18 A fire was kindled against their company :
The flame burnt up the wicked.
- 19 They made a calf in Horeb :
And worshipp'd a molten image.
- 20 Yea, they barter'd away their glory
For a grass-eating ox's likeness.
- 21 They forgot their Saviour-God,
Who had done great deeds in Egypt.
- 22 Wondrous *deeds* in the land of Ham :
Terrible *deeds* at the Red Sea.

IV.

- 23 And He said He would destroy them :
Which he certainly would have done,
Had not Moses, his chosen, stood
Before Him in the breach,
To turn away His wrath,
That He should not destroy them.

V.

- 24 They despised the desirable land :
They believed not His word.

- 25 But murmur'd in their tents :
To the voice of Jehovah they listen'd not.
- 26 Then He lift up His hand and sware to them,
He would cause them to die in the wilderness :
- 27 He would cast out their offspring among the heathen,
And scatter them in the lands.
- 28 They bound themselves also to Baal-peor :
And ate the sacrifices
Offer'd to the dead.
- 29 They provoked Him by their deeds :
And the plague broke in upon them.
- 30 Then Phinehas stood up and judg'd :
And the plague was stayed.
- 31 It was reckon'd to him for righteousness,
To all generations for ever.
- 32 They anger'd Him also at Meribah's waters :
It went ill with Moses because of them.
- 33 For they embitter'd his spirit :
With his lips he spake unadvisedly.

VI.

- 34 They destroy'd not the nations
Of whom JEHOVAH spake to them :
- 35 But mix'd with the heathen, and learn'd their
works.
- 36 They also serv'd their idols,
Which was a snare to them :
- 37 And offer'd their sons and their daughters to devils.

- 38 They also shed innocent blood,
The blood of their sons and their daughters,
Whom they offer'd to th' idols of Canaan :
And the land was polluted with blood.
- 39 They were also defiled with their deeds :
With their works committed they whoredom.
- 40 Then JEHOVAH's anger burn'd
Against His people :
And He abhorr'd His inheritance.
- 41 To the hands of the heathen He gave them :
And their haters lorded it over them.
- 42 Their enemies also oppress'd them :
And subjected them under their hand.
- 43 Many a time He deliver'd them :
But they anger'd Him with their counsels,
And were brought low
By reason of their iniquity.

VII.

- 44 And He look'd on *their* strait, when He heard
their cry.
- 45 He remember'd to them His covenant ;
And in manifold mercy relented :
- 46 And caused them to be pitied
'Mongst all who had taken them captive.
- 47 Save us, JEHOVAH our God ;
And gather us from the heathen :
To laud Thy Holy Name,
And glory in Thy praise.

DOXOLOGY.

48 Blest be JEHOVAH the God of Israel
 From everlasting to everlasting !
 And all the people say,
 AMEN ! HALLELUIAH :

STROPHE—DIVISION 5. 7. 10. 1. 10. 10. 5.=10. 10.
10. 10. 8.=48.

NOTES
CRITICAL AND EXPLANATORY
ON THE
FOURTH PART OF THE BOOK OF PSALMS.

NOTES.

PSALM XC.

THE title informs us that the Psalm was composed by Moses; and verses 13—15 determine the time of the composition to be towards the end of the thirty-eight years' punishment in the wilderness.

The doctrine taught in this Psalm is, that *death is the wages of sin*.

Verse 11. *Who knows the strength of Thine anger
And wrath with the fear that is due to Thee?
—with the fear that is due to Thee—*Heb. *in proportion to Thy fear*.

Verse 14. *And we will rejoice right gladly—
—right gladly* expresses the Π of striving.

PSALM XCI.

This Psalm is remarkable for the changes of person which occur in it. The 3rd person in verse 1 is

changed into the 1st in verse 2 : and in verse 9 JEHO-
 VAN is address in the first hemistich, and spoken of in
 the second ; and the *my* of the first hemistich is changed
 into *thy* in the second. Towards the close of the
 Psalm JEHOVAN is introduced as speaking.

The Psalm inculcates joyful confidence in God in the
 midst of all troubles and dangers.

Verse 3. *The pestilence of wickedness—*

i. e. the pestilential ruin meditated by wicked enemies.

Verse 5. *Thou needest not fear the terror of night—*

The terror of night is to be understood, in the first
 instance and especially, of *the stratagems of enemies* ;
 and then, secondly and subordinately, of *sickness*.

Verse 13. *Thou shalt trample on lions and adders—*

Lions and adders represent the two kinds of dangers
 to which the righteous man is exposed, namely, *open*
violence and secret cunning. Samson, David, and
 Daniel, gained victories over *lions* ; the Israelites in the
 wilderness, over *serpents* ; compare Luke x. 19, and
 Acts xxviii. 6.

PSALM XCII.

This Psalm is entitled *a Psalm : a song of praise
 for the Sabbath-day*. And the contents are well adapt-
 ed for the purpose intended. “ For,” as Hengstenberg
 observes, “ on the Sabbath-day men ought to *rest from
 their own works*, in order to consider the works of God
 leisurely and together : compare verse 5, *How great*

are Thy works, Jehovah! Among these works, however, one of the greatest, not less great than the creation of the heaven and the earth, is the preservation of His Church in the midst of an evil world."

Verse 12. *The righteous doth sprout like a palm-tree :
He grows like a cedar in Lebanon.*

Verse 13. *In Jehovah's house they are planted :
In the courts of our God they flourish.*

"The holy candlestick, the symbol of the Church of God, the people of the covenant, had the form of a tree with flowers and fruit, to denote the joyful prosperity of the Church of God. Figures of flowers were found on the two curtains of the sanctuary, and of the court of the tabernacle. Flowers and blossoms were specially the insignia of the priesthood, to denote its joyful prosperity. The temple of Solomon was adorned in the interior with palms and opening blossoms, as the symbol of the increase, the blossoming, and the prosperity of the kingdom of God. The reference to these symbols is all the more suitable, as the Psalm before us refers in the first instance, to the universal Church. What is said of it, however, applies also to every one of its individual members.—There lies at the bottom an abbreviated comparison : these spiritual trees flourish in the house of God, as the natural trees when they are planted in a rich soil, Is. v. 1 ; or by rivers of waters." (Hengstenberg.)

PSALM XCIH.

This Psalm forms a pair with the preceding ; both Psalms minister consolation to the Church, exposed to danger by the might of the world. In regard to the *date of composition*, "our Psalm pre-supposes a powerful pressure from the might of the world against the kingdom of God, and consequently cannot be dated earlier than the Assyrian catastrophe. And that we cannot descend later than this period, is evident from the very apparent dependence of the Psalm upon Psalm xlv. The temple appears in verse 5 as *threatened*." (Hengstenberg.)

Verse 1. *JEHOVAH reigns.*

This language refers not to the constant providential government of God, but to a new glorious manifestation of His dominion. It is the war-cry with which the Church advances to meet the world's might, confederate against her. Compare Rev. xi. 15. xix. 6.

Verse 3. *The floods lift up their din—
—their din—*Heb. *their collision.*

Verse 4. *JEHOVAH on high is more magnificent*

Than the voices of many magnificent waters :

Than the waves of the sea.

JEHOVAH on high—This refers to verse 9 of the preceding Psalm :—

Thou art Height for ever, JEHOVAH.

I connect אֲדֹנָיִם with the substantive that *precedes*,

not with the substantive that *follows*. I am persuaded that this is the true construction ; 1st, because it is contrary to the Hebrew idiom, that the adjective should precede the substantive ; and 2ndly, because by this arrangement the verse in the original is divided into two equal portions, consisting of four words each.

Verse 5.

Holiness graces

Thy house, JEHOVAH, for ever.

And therefore JEHOVAH will take care that it b not *desecrated* by the hand of impious enemies.

—*for ever*—Heb. *for a length of days*.

PSALM XCIV.

This Psalm is alphabetical in regard to the number of verses, the first verse being separated from the rest. It was probably composed on the eve of the Chaldean catastrophe. The first verse may be compared with Psalm l. 2. It corresponds with the “JEHOVAH reigneth” of the preceding Psalm.

PSALM XCV.

This Psalm forms a pair with the succeeding one. Both Psalms are links in the chain of Psalms commencing with Psalm xci. and ending with Psalm c. “Behind the darkness of the approaching Chaldean catastrophe the Prophets perceived the approach, and the Psalmists led on by them excited the expectation of

a clear light." (Hengstenberg.) The Jewish nation disregarded the warning,

To-day if ye will hear His voice.

Let us not imitate their example ; for the warning is addressed to us.

Verse 4. *In His hands are the mines of the earth :*

And the stores of the mountains are His.

This latter clause may be rendered thus :—

And the heights of the mountains are His.

So the LXX., the Syriac, the Vulgate, Jerome, Luther, and De Sacy. The Hebrew is literally,

And the toils of the mountains are His.

The word "*toils*" is used metaphorically, and occurs in Numbers xxiii. 22. It denotes either the *stores* of the mountains or their *heights*. The former *are gained by toil* ; and the latter *are ascended with toil*. Mr. Phillips translates as I do. The former clause is in favour of this rendering.

PSALM XCVI.

This Psalm forms a pair with the preceding. The extra verse *here* corresponds to one deficient *there* : the two Psalms together have the double signature of the people of the covenant. It is evident that the Psalmist was stimulated by the second part of Isaiah. Compare the 1st verse.

Sing a new song to JEHOVAH :

Sing to JEHOVAH, all the earth.

with Is. xlii. 10.

Sing a new song to JEHOVAH :

His praise from the end of the earth.

The second verse also

Sing to JEHOVAH, bless His Name :

Declare the glad news of His salvation

From day to-day—

is quite in the style of Isaiah the *Evangelical* Prophet.

PSALM XCVII.

This Psalm, like the 93rd and the 99th, commences with the cry "*JEHOVAH reigneth !*" It has the signature of the people of the covenant. It abounds with quotations from, and references to, other portions of Scripture.

Compare verse 1 with Ps. xciii. 1. xcvi. 10, 11.

„ „ 2 „ Ps. xviii. 9. 11, lxxxix. 14. Deut.
v. 19.

„ „ 3 „ Ps. l. 3. Hab. iii. 5.

„ „ 4 „ Ps. lxxvii. 18. lvii. 16; 18.

„ „ 5 „ Numb. i. 4. iv. 13.

„ „ 6 „ Ps. l. 6. Isa. xl. 5.

„ „ 7 „ Is. xlii. 17. xlv. 9.

„ „ 8 „ Ps. xlviii. 11. Is. xl. 9.

„ „ 9 „ Ps. lxxxiii. 18. xlvii. 9.

„ „ 10 „ Ps. xxxiv. 13.

„ „ 11 „ Ps. cxii. 4.

„ „ 12 „ Ps. xxxii. 11. xxx. 4.

Verse 7. *Worship Him, all ye gods !*

St. Paul, following the LXX, applies the passage to *angels*. But principally and especially *the gods of the heathen* are meant. In strictness of speech *Elohim* cannot be applied to *angels*. Compare Ps. viii. 5.

Verse 11. *Light is sown for the righteous.*

The metaphor of *sowing* is only to be regarded in *one* point of view, viz. *the scattering with a profuse and liberal hand*. In *זָרַץ* *is sown* there is an allusion to the more obvious term *אָרַץ* *arises*, which is very similar in pronunciation. Dathe renders the clause, *Lux spargitur piis*, which conveys the meaning of the original. "Light is said to be scattered, when the rising sun sheds his rays plentifully in every direction." (Venema.)

PSALM XCVIII.

This Psalm forms a pair with the preceding, that being the prophetic, this the pre-eminently lyrical part. Both Psalms consist of strophes of 3 verses each. Ps. xcvi. has 4 such strophes : Ps. xcvi. has 3 : the two Psalms together have 7 such strophes.

The subject of the Psalm is the praise of *JEHOVAH*. The first strophe shows *why*, the second *how*, *JEHOVAH* is to be praised ; and the third, *who* are to praise Him.

This is the only Psalm which is entitled *a Psalm* without any addition. It is the pre-eminently lyrical part of the divided pair.

Verse 1. *His right-hand and holy arm*

Have wrought salvation for Him.

Compare Is. lix. 10. lxiii. 5. lii. 10. xl. 10. li. 9.

Holy=awful, infinitely removed above every creature.

Compare Ps. xxii. 3.

Compare verses 2 and 3 with Is. lii. 10.

„ verse 3 with Is. lxiii. 7. Ps. xcii. 3.

„	„	4	„	{	Psalm lxvi. 1. xlvii. 1.
„	„	5	„		Is. xiv. 7. xlv. 23.
„	„	6	„		Is. xlix. 13. liv. 1. lii. 9.

„ „ 5 „ Ps. xlvii. 6.

„ „ 6 „ Is. vi. 5.

„ „ 7 „ Ps. xcvi. 11. xxiv. 1.

„ „ 8 „ 2 Kings xi. 12. Is. lv. 12.

„ „ 9 „ Ps. xcvi. 13.

PSALM XCIX.

This Psalm forms a pair with the following. According to verses 1 and 5, it was composed at a time when the ark of the covenant was still in existence, and therefore before the Chaldean invasion.

Verse 8. *JEROVAH our God, Thyself didst answer them :*

A forgiving God Thou wast to them :

An avenging God for their wicked actions.

Moses, Aaron, and Samuel are referred to in the first clause ; the people in the second and third.

PSALM C.

This Psalm bears the same relation to the preceding one, that Ps. xcvi. bears to Ps. xcvi. It is the lyrical portion of the divided whole, the Psalm within a Psalm. Hence it is entitled *A Psalm of thanksgiving*. It is the last of the decade of Psalms to which it belongs, and exhibits the full-toned chorus of all nations and tongues who know that JEHOVAH is God.

PSALM CI.

This Psalm forms a triad with the two following. The first verse finds its development in Psalm cii.; and the "*When wilt Thou come to me?*" of verse 2, its expansion in Ps. cii. The substance of the Psalm is given in Ps. cii. 17. 18.

PSALM CII.

The title forms a component part of the Psalm. This is manifest from its poetical structure, and from the Strophe-Division, which, reckoning the title as a verse, is 1. 10. 7. 10. 1. These figures read the same backwards and forwards.

Verse 24. *He hath weaken'd my strength in the way—my strength*—This is the Kri reading; also that of 51 of Kennicott's copies. Jerome gives the same; and both our versions.

Verse 25. *Make me not vanish—*

Heb—*Make me not ascend*, i. e. as smoke, which quickly vanishes.

PSALM CIII.

“The Psalm bears the character of quiet tenderness. It is a still clear brook of the praise of God. In accordance with this, the verses are of equal length as to structure, and consist regularly of ten members. It is only at the conclusion, where the tone rises, that the verses become longer: the vessel is too small for the feeling.” (Hengstenberg.)

PSALM CIV.

It is of importance, in order to arrive at a correct understanding of the meaning of this Psalm, that it be viewed in connection with the two that follow. With them it forms a triad. “The Psalmist, in a time of severe trouble, arising from the power of the heathen, seeks consolation in reflecting on the greatness of God in nature.” (Hengstenberg.)

The structure of the Psalm is extremely artificial, as a glance at the Strophe-Division will show :

1. 4. 12. 1. 12. 4. 1.

These figures read the same backwards and forwards.

Verse 3. *Who buildeth His upper chambers with water.*

The change of person which commences in this verse reminds me of the German idiom as exemplified in the following lines of a favourite hymn :—

Du, der menschen Heil und Leben, dess sich meine Seele freut,
 Der für mich sich hingegen, Stifter meiner Seligkeit ;
 Du, der lieber wollt' erblassen, als mich im Verderben lassen ;
 Ach, wie dank', wie dank' ich dir, mein Erlöser, g'nug dafür ?

Verse 18. *The high hills are for the chamois :*

The cliffs are the hyrax' refuge.

This is the middle verse round which the Psalm revolves. In the background it contains consolation for the Church. The people of God are weak and defenceless in themselves, as are the chamois and hyrax ; and, like them, have many enemies. But God is their *Height*, their *Cliff*, and their *Refuge*.

Dr. Carpenter and Dr. Kitto are both of opinion that the *Hyrax Syriacus* is intended by the Hebrew word *Shaphan*. According to the former, the hyrax is intermediate between the tapir and the rhinoceros, and inhabits *the rocky districts* of Syria and Africa. It is sometimes called *the rock-rabbit*. The *Cape Hyrax* inhabits Southern Africa ; the *Syrian Hyrax* (the species in question), Syria, Arabia, and Abyssinia. Dr. Carpenter observes, that both species take up their abode *in caves or crevices in the sides of rocks*.

In Dr. Kitto's "Cyclopædia of Biblical Literature" is an article on this subject by Lieut. Colonel C. Hamilton Smith, under the head of "SHAPHAN." The Shaphan is supposed to have given name to Spain, the

Phoenicians mistaking the rabbits, with which that country was infested, for the Hyrax. Roman coins struck in Spain have the rabbit.

Verse 22. *The sun arises : they gather together :*

And lay them down in their dens.

The Berleb. Bible has a remarkable note on this verse. "When Jesus Christ went into a state of humiliation, then roaring lions, bears, and foxes, came out of their holes, and fell fiercely upon him, Acts iv. 27. And a similar lot still befalls His Church even at this time, and did so throughout the long night under Antichrist. But on the morning of the seventh day the sun shall rise in his strength, and shall shine throughout the whole day, when no wicked beast shall dare to look out." The last conflict is rapidly hastening on. The Millennium is drawing nigh, and the final triumph of the Church.

God is within her : she shall not be moved :

God will help her at break of morning.

Verse 25. *Therein move creatures innumerable ;*

Living creatures, small and great.

Verse 26. *Nautili swim there :*

The whale Thou hast form'd to sport there.

In the latter of these two verses the Psalmist adduces an example of the "small" and of the "great" tenants of the deep. *Nautili* belong to the former class: *the whale* belongs to the latter. The *Leviathan* of Scripture is generally the *crocodile* : in this passage it is the *whale*. The *nautilus* is found in the Mediterranean

sea (which is probably the sea referred to,) and I believe the *whale* is occasionally found there also.

Verse 34. *My musing on Him shall be sweet.*

The above rendering is in effect the same as that of the authorized version, and is supported by the context.

PSALM CV.

This Psalm, like the preceding, is constructed with great art, as a glance at the Strophe—Division will show.

7. 10. 5. 1. 5. 10. 7.

These figures read the same backwards and forwards. Like the preceding, the Psalm has a central verse round which it revolves, namely, verse 23 :—

And Israel came to Egypt :

And Jacob sojourn'd in the land of Ham.

Verse 12. *When they were small in number :*

Very few, and strangers in it.

Very few—Heb. *As a few*—"What resembles the original idea of fewness, must be few *indeed*." (Hengstenberg.)

Verse 13. *From one to another kingdom.*

Heb. *From one kingdom to another nation.*

Verse 18. *His person was bound with iron.*

Heb. *His soul came into iron.*

Verse 19. *Until his word came to pass—*

Compare Gen. xli. 13.

And the word of JEHOVAH clear'd him.

"The purifying of Joseph in the eyes of men, the es-

tablishment of his character, is attributed to the living and powerful word of God, because it happened on account of it. The word of the Lord is the promise of the possession of Canaan, the accomplishment of which demanded the preceding residence in Egypt." (Hengstenberg.)

Verse 28. *And His words were not disobeyed.*

Heb.—*And they did not disobey His words.*

It is generally thought that Moses and Aaron are referred to : but this is harsh and unsatisfactory. The lxx. Syriac, Arabic, and Ethiopic, omit the negative particle, and thereby make the Egyptians the subject : but this is to cut the knot, not to untie it. Merrick seems to have hit the true solution. He takes the verb impersonally, and compares Job xix. 26, and Luke xii. 20. So also Bishop Horsley.

The meaning of the passage is, that the plagues of Egypt came at Jehovah's bidding. The enumeration of the plagues does not properly commence till verse 29 ; the ninth plague is only *hinted at*, not mentioned. *Egypt was darkened morally and metaphorically during all the plagues.*

French and Skinner's observations on verse 25 will apply here, and will show the sense in which God *sent* a *moral* darkness on the Egyptians. " Since all events happen by the direction or permission of Providence, the Hebrew writers are accustomed to attribute them directly to divine agency." Compare Rev. xvii. 17.

As to the *metaphorical* darkness, compare Rev. xvi. 10.

Verse 31. *He spake, and vermin came :*

And gnats in all their borders.

The fourth plague is mentioned before the third, the *vermin* before the *gnats*. For *gnats* our translators incorrectly substitute *lice*. See Hengstenberg's "Egypt and the Books of Moses."

PSALM CVI.

" This Psalm is the concluding portion of that trilogy of the captivity which is appended to the Davidic trilogy, and with which it forms one whole." (Hengstenberg.)

THE BOOK OF PSALMS.

PART V.

PSALM CVII. TO CL. INCLUSIVE.

PART V.

PSALM CVII. TO CL. INCLUSIVE.

I.

- 1 **GIVE** thanks to JEHOVAH : for *He* is good :
 For His mercy endureth for ever.
2 JEHOVAH's redeem'd ones may say so,
 Whom He hath redeem'd from want :
3 And hath gather'd out of the lands,
 From the east and the west, the north and the
 south.

II.

- 4 **They** stray'd in the desert, the pathless wilderness :
 They found no city to dwell in.
5 Hungry and thirsty,
 Their soul, it fainted within them.
6 In their strait they cry to JEHOVAH :
 He delivers them from their oppressions.
7 He leads them in the right way
 To go to a city of habitation.

- 8 Let them praise to JEHOVAH His mercy :
To the children of men His wonders.
9 For the craving soul He satisfies :
And fills the hungry with good.

III.

- 10 The dwellers in death's dark shadow,
Bound with galling chains,
11 (Because they resisted the word of God,
And contemn'd the counsel of the Most High,)
12 Whose hearts He bow'd down with hardships,
Who stumbled without a helper ;
13 In their strait they cry to JEHOVAH :
He saves them from their oppressions.
14 From death's dark shadow He brings them :
And bursts their bonds asunder.
15 Let them praise to JEHOVAH His mercy :
To the children of men His wonders.
16 For He hath shiver'd the gates of brass :
And snapt asunder the bars of iron.

IV.

- 17 Fools for their course of transgression
And for their iniquities suffer :
18 Their appetite loathes all food ;
They approach the gates of death.
19 In their strait they cry to JEHOVAH ;
He saves them from their oppressions :
20 He sends forth His word, and heals them ;
And delivers *them* from their destructions.

- 21 Let them praise to JEHOVAH His mercy :
To the children of men His wonders.
22 Sacrifice of praise let them offer :
And recount His works with singing.

v.

- 23 They who traverse the sea in ships,
Doing duty in many waters,
24 These see the works of JEHOVAH,
And His wonders in the deep.
25 For He speaks, and stills a storm
Of wind which lifts its billows.
26 They mount to heaven : they descend to the depths :
Their soul is melted through trouble.
27 They stagger and reel like a drunken man :
And all their skill is drown'd.
28 In their strait they cry to JEHOVAH :
He delivers them from their oppressions.
29 He reduces the storm to a calm,
And the watery billows are hush'd.
30 They are glad to have rest, and He brings
them
To the object of their desire.
31 Let them praise to JEHOVAH His mercy ;
To the children of men His wonders :
32 In the throng of the people exalt Him ;
In th' assembly of elders extol Him.

vi.

- 33 He turneth rivers into a wilderness ;
And water-springs to a parchèd land :

- 34 A fruitful land into sea
 For the wickedness of its inhabitants.
- 35 He turneth the wilderness into a water-pond :
 And a thirsty land into springs of water.
- 36 He makes the hungry to dwell there :
 And they build a city of habitation.
- 37 They sow *them* fields, and plant *them* vineyards :
 And they yield *them* fruits of increase.
- 38 And He blesses them so that they multiply greatly :
 Nor lets their cattle decrease.
- 39 When they are brought down and minish'd
 Through oppression, suffering, and sorrow,
- 40 He pours contempt upon princes ;
 And makes them to stray in a pathless desert :
- 41 While He lifts the needy from suffering ;
 Like a flock he makes *their* families.
- 42 The righteous see, and are glad :
 And all wickedness stops its mouth.

VII.

- 43 Whoso is wise, even he will observe this :
 Yea, they will understand
 JEHOVAH's loving-kindnesses.

STROPHE—DIVISION 3. 6. 7. 10. 10. 1.=6. 6. 10.
 10. 10. 1.=12. 30. 1.=42. 1.

PSALM CVIII.

A SONG OF PRAISE : A PSALM OF DAVID.

I.

- 1 My heart is ready, O God :
 I will willingly hymn and sing.
 My glory *is* also *ready*.
2 Awake up, lute and harp :
 I will waken the morning-dawn :
3 I will praise Thee, JEHOVAH, among the peoples :
 I will hymn Thee among the nations.
4 For Thy mercy is great from heaven :
 And Thy truth *doth reach* to the skies.

II.

- 5 Praise be to Thee, O God, in heaven :
 Glory to Thee in all the earth.

III.

- 6 That Thy lov'd one may be deliver'd,
 Save with Thy right-hand, and hear me.
7 In His holiness God hath spoken :
 I *WILL therefore* portion out Shechem
 And mete out the valley of Succoth.
8 Gilead is mine, and Manasseh is mine :
 And Ephraim the guard of my head.
9 Judah my lawgiver : Moab my washing-tub :
 At Edom I throw my shoe :
 I will raise a shout o'er Philistia.

IV.

- 10 Who will bring me to Bozrah ?
 Who conduct me to Edom ?
- 11 Wilt not Thou, O God who hast cast us off,
 And goest not forth, O God, with our armies ?
- 12 Vouchsafe us help from the foe :
 For vain is the aid of man.
- 13 In God we will do right valiantly :
 And HE will tread down our enemies.

STROPHE—DIVISION 4. 1. 4. 4. Including the title,
 the Psalm contains 14 verses.

PSALM CIX.

TO THE CHIEF MUSICIAN : A PSALM OF DAVID.

I.

- 1 O God of my praise, be not silent.
- 2 For they open against me
 A wicked deceitful mouth :
 They speak against me with tongue of falsehood.
- 3 They beset me with words of hatred :
 And fight against me causelessly,
- 4 They requite my love with enmity :
- 5 They repay me evil for good :
 And hatred for my love.

II.

- 6 Set Thou a wicked man over him :
 Let an adversary stand at his right-hand.

- 7 When judged, let him go forth condemn'd :
 Let his supplication be sin.
- 8 Let his days be few :
 And another take his charge.
- 9 Let his children be fatherless :
 And his wife a widow.
- 10 Let his children be beggars and vagabonds :
 And seek for *bread*,
 Driven from their ruin'd dwellings.

III.

- 11 Let th' extortioner seize upon all that he hath :
 And strangers plunder *the fruit of* his toil.
- 12 Let there be none to extend to him kindness :
 And pity his orphans.
- 13 His posterity, let it be *clean* cut off :
 And in the next generation
 Let their name be blotted out.
- 14 Let his fathers' iniquity
 Be remember'd by ЈЕHOVAH :
 And let not his mother's sin
 Be done away.
- 15 Let them be ever before ЈЕHOVAH,
 To erase from the earth their remembrance.

IV.

- 16 Because he forgot to show mercy,
 And hunted the poor and the destitute,
 To put to death the heart-broken.

- 17 Since cursing he loves let it come to him :
Since he liketh not blessing, let it be far from him.
- 18 Since he putteth on cursing as if a garment,
Let it enter his inwards like water,
And into his bones like oil.
- 19 Let it be as his constant clothing :
As the girdle wherewith he is girded habitually.
- 20 Be this the reward of my foes from Jehovah :
Of those who speak evil against my soul.

v.

- 21 But THOU, JEHOVAH Lord !
For Thy Name's sake execute for me :
Because Thy mercy is good, deliver Thou me.
- 22 For I am afflicted and destitute :
And my heart is wounded within me.
- 23 I depart as a lengthen'd shadow :
I am carried away, as a locust.
- 24 My knees give way through fasting :
My flesh fails, wanting oil.
- 25 I am become a reproach to them :
They see me, *and* shake their head.

vi.

- 26 Help me, JEHOVAH my God :
In Thy loving-kindness save me.
- 27 Let them know that this is Thy hand :
And that THOU, JEHOVAH hast done it.

- 28 *Though* THEY curse, *yet* bless THOU :
 May they be ashamed *when* they rise up :
 But may Thy servant rejoice.
- 29 As for mine adversaries,
 Let them be clothed with shame :
 And clad with their own disgrace,
 As with a mantle.
- 30 With my mouth will I greatly laud JEHOVAH :
 'Midst multitudes will I sing praise to Him.

VII.

- 31 For He stands at the poor man's right-hand,
 To save him from those who condemn him to death. .

STROPHE—DIVISION 5. 5. 5. 5. 5. 5. 1=10. 10. 10.
 1=30. 1.

PSALM CX.

A PSALM OF DAVID.

I.

- 1 JEHOVAH said to my Lord :
 "Sit at my right-hand until
 "I make Thy foes Thy footstool.
- 2 "Jehovah will send out of Sion
 "The rod of Thy strength :
 "Rule in the midst of Thine enemies."

II.

- 3 Thy people willingly offer themselves
 In the day of Thy might, in holy adornments :
 From the womb of the morning-dawn—
 Thou hast Thy youthful dew.
- 4 JEHOVAH hath sworn, and will not repent :
 “Thou art a Priest for ever
 “After Melchizedek’s order.”

III.

- 5 The Lord at Thy right-hand hath wounded
 Kings in the day of His wrath.
- 6 He executes judgment upon the heathen :
 He hath fill’d with corpses :
 He hath wounded the heads
 O’er the wide earth.

IV.

- 7 Of the brook He drinks in the way :
 He therefore lifts up the head.

STROPHE—DIVISION 2. 2. 2. 1.=4. 3.=7.

PSALM CXI.

- 1 HALLELUIAH !
- 2 I will praise JEHOVAH with all *my* heart,
 2 In th’ assembly of the upright,
 Even the congregation.

- 2 ז Great are the works of JEHOVAH,
 7 Enquired of according to all their wishes.
 3 ח His work is majestic and glorious :
 1 And His righteousness stands for ever.
 4 ז For His works He hath made a memorial :
 ח JEHOVAH is gracious and merciful.
 5 מ He supplies those who fear Him with food :
 1 He always remembers His covenant.
 6 כ The strength of His works He hath shown to
 His people :
 ל Giving them to inherit the heathen.
 7 מ The works of His hands are truth and justice ;
 כ His precepts may all be depended on :
 8 ס Firm for ever and ever ;
 ע Done in truth and equity.
 9 פ Redemption he sent to His people :
 צ He hath order'd His covenant for ever :
 ק Holy and dreadful His Name.
 10 ר The beginning of wisdom, the fear of JEHOVAH :
 ש A good understanding have all they who prac-
 tise them :
 ח His praise endureth for ever.

PSALM CXII.

- 1 HALLELUIAH !
 נ Happy the man who fears JEHOVAH :
 כ Who greatly delights in His commandments.
 2 ז His seed shall be mighty on earth :
 7 The race of the upright is blessed.

- 3 כּ In His house are plenty and riches :
 י And His righteousness stands for ever.
 4 י In darkness ariseth light to the upright :
 כּ To the kind, compassionate and just.
 5 מ Well is the man who is kind and lendeth :
 י His affairs he fosters with judgment.
 6 כּ For he shall never be moved :
 ל The righteous shall be in eternal remembrance.
 7 מ He fears not evil tidings :
 נ Firm is his heart : he trusts in JEHOVAH.
 8 מ Sustain'd is his heart : he fears not :
 ע Until he looks on his enemies.
 9 מ He scatters : He gives to the destitute :
 צ His righteousness stands for ever :
 ק His horn is exalted with honour.
 10 ר The wicked sees, and is grieved :
 ש He gnashes his teeth, and melts :
 ת The desire of the wicked perishes.

PSALM CXIII.

I.

- 1 HALLELUIAH !
 Praise, JEHOVAH's servants,
 Praise the Name of JEHOVAH.
 2 May the Name of JEHOVAH be blessed
 From henceforth, even for ever.
 3 From the rising sun to the setting :
 The Name of JEHOVAH is glorious.

II.

- 4 JEHOVAH is high above all nations :
 His glory, over the heavens.
 5 Who is there like JEHOVAH our God,
 6 Who sitteth high in the heavens,
 And looketh down on the earth ?

III.

- 7 He raises the poor from the dust ;
 He lifts from the dunghill the needy :
 8 Making him sit with princes :
 With the princes of His people.
 9 Her in the house who is barren
 He causeth to dwell
 A joyful mother of children.

STROPHE—DIVISION 3. 3. 3.

PSALM CXIV.

I.

- 1 When Israel came out of Egypt ;
 The house of Jacob
 From a people of barbarous language :
 2 • Judah was His sanctuary ;
 Israel, His dominion.

II.

- 3 The sea beheld, and fled :
 Jordan was driven back.

- 4 The mountains skipp'd like rams :
 The hills, like lambs.

III.

- 5 What ails thee, thou sea, that thou fleest ?
 Thou Jordan, that thou turnest back ?
6 That ye mountains skip like rams ?
 And ye hills, like lambs ?

IV.

- 7 Tremble, thou earth, from before the Lord :
 From before the God of Jacob.
8 Who changeth the rock into waters :
 The flint to a fountain of waters.

STROPHE—DIVISION 2. 2. 2. 2.=8.

PSALM CXV.

I.

- 1 NOT unto us, JEHOVAH,
 Not unto us,
 But to Thy Name give glory,
 Because of Thy mercy and truth.

II.

- 2 Why should the heathen say,
 “ Where is now their god ? ”

- 3 Our God is in heaven : He does what He pleases.
4 Their idols are silver and gold :
The work of men's hands.
5 Mouths have they, and they speak not ;
Eyes have they, and they see not :
6 Ears have they, and they hear not ;
Noses have they, and they smell not.
7 Their hands do not handle : their feet do not walk :
They breathe no sound through their throat.
8 Like them are they who make them :
And whoso trusteth in them.

III.

- 9 Israel, trust in JEHOVAH :
He is their Help and their Shield.
10 Ye house of Aaron, trust in JEHOVAH :
He is their Help and their Shield.
11 Ye who fear JEHOVAH, trust in JEHOVAH :
He is their Help and their Shield.
12 JEHOVAH is mindful of us, *and* will bless us :
He will bless the house of Israel :
He will bless the house of Aaron.
13 He will bless those who fear JEHOVAH :
The small with the great.
14 JEHOVAH add to you,
To you and your children.
15 Blessed be ye of JEHOVAH,
Creator of heaven and earth.
16 The heaven is heaven for JEHOVAH :
The earth He hath given to the children of men.

- 17 The dead, they praise not JEHOVAH :
Nor they who go down to silence.
- 18 But **we** will bless JEHOVAH
From henceforth, even for ever.
- HALLELUIAH !

STROPHE—DIVISION 1. 7. 10.

PSALM CXVI.

I.

- 1 I LOVE, for JEHOVAH hears
My voice, *and* my supplication.
- 2 For He hath inclined His ear to me :
I therefore will call *on Him* *all* my days.

II.

- 3 The cords of death beset me :
And the pains of hell o'ertook me :
I found distress and sorrow.
- 4 Then I call'd on the Name of JEHOVAH :
" I pray now, JEHOVAH, deliver my soul.
- 5 JEHOVAH is gracious and righteous :
Yea, our God is merciful.
- 6 JEHOVAH preserves the simple :
Low was I laid, and He help'd me.
- 7 Return to thy rest, my soul :
For JEHOVAH hath dealt with thee kindly.
- 8 For Thou didst deliver my soul from death :
Mine eyes from tears, *and* my feet from falling.

- 9 I will walk before JEHOVAH
In the land of the living.

III.

- 10 I believed, for I spoke : but as for me,
I was afflicted exceedingly.
11 As for me, I said in my trepidation :
All men are liars.
12 How shall I requite JEHOVAH
For all His gifts to me ?
13 I will take the cup of salvation :
And call on the Name of JEHOVAH.
14 I will pay my vows to JEHOVAH
In the presence of all His people.
15 In the eyes of JEHOVAH
The death of His saints is precious.
16 I pray thee now, JEHOVAH :
For I am Thy servant, the son of Thy handmaid,
Thou hast doff'd my bonds.
17 I will offer to Thee thank-offerings :
And call on the Name of JEHOVAH.
18 I will pay my vows to JEHOVAH,
In the presence of all His people :
19 In the courts of the house of JEHOVAH :
In the midst of thee, Jerusalem.

HALLELUIAH !

STROPHE—DIVISION 2. 7. 10.

PSALM CXVII.

- 1 PRAISE JEHOVAH, all ye heathen :
 Laud Him, all ye peoples.
 2 For great is His mercy over us :
 And His truth endureth for ever.

HALLELUIAH !

STROPHE—DIVISION of this Psalm and the preceding
 conjointly 2. 7. 10. 2.=21.

PSALM CXVIII.

I.

- 1 PRAISE ye JEHOVAH, for He is good :
 For His mercy endureth for ever.
 2 Let now Israel say :
 “ For His mercy endureth for ever.”
 3 Let Aaron’s house now say :
 “ For His mercy endureth for ever.”
 4 Let JEHOVAH’s fearers now say :
 “ For His mercy endureth for ever ”

II.

- 5 In my strait I call’d on JEHOVAH :
 He answer’d, *and set* me at large.
 6 JEHOVAH is mine : I fear not :
 What *harm* can man do unto me :

- 7 JEHOVAH is my Helper :
Therefore I will look on mine enemies.
- 8 'Tis better to trust in JEHOVAH,
Than to confide in man.
- 9 'Tis better to trust in JEHOVAH,
Than to confide in princes.
- 10 All the heathen surround me :
 In JEHOVAH's Name
I surely will circumcise them.
- 11 They surround me, yea, they surround me :
 In JEHOVAH's Name
I surely will circumcise them.
- 12 They surround me like bees :
They're extinct like the fire of thorns :
 In JEHOVAH's Name
I surely will circumcise them.
- 13 Thou didst push at me, that I might fall :
 But JEHOVAH help'd me.
- 14 My strength and song is JAH :
And He is become my salvation.

III.

- 15 The voice of joy and salvation
Is in the tents of the righteous :
JEHOVAH's right-hand doth valiantly.
- 16 JEHOVAH's right-hand exalts :
JEHOVAH's right-hand doth valiantly.
- 17 I shall not die, but live :
And declare the works of JAH.

- 18 **JAH** afflicted me sorely :
 But gave me not over to death.

IV.

- 19 Open me the gates of righteousness :
 I will enter therein *and* praise **JEHOVAH**.
 20 This is the gate of **JEHOVAH** :
 The righteous enter therein.
 21 I praise thee, because Thou hast heard me :
 And art become my salvation.
 22 The stone which the builders rejected
 Is become the corner stone.
 23 From **JEHOVAH** this hath happen'd :
 It is marvellous in our eyes.
 24 This is the day which **JEHOVAH** hath made :
 Let us be glad and rejoice in it.
 25 I pray now, **JEHOVAH**, save :
 I pray now, **JEHOVAH**, prosper.
 26 Blest in the Name of **JEHOVAH**
 Be he who cometh :
 From the house of **JEHOVAH** we bless you.
 27 **JEHOVAH** is God, and He hath enlighten'd us :
 Bind with cords the sacrifice—
 Unto the horns of the altar.
 28 Thou art my God, and I will praise Thee :
 My God, and I will exalt Thee.

V.

- 29 Praise ye **JEHOVAH**, for He is good :
 For His mercy endureth for ever.

STROPHE—DIVISION 4. 10. 4. 10. 1.—14. 14. 1.

PSALM CXIX.

I.

- 1 N HAPPY are they whose way is perfect :
 Who walk in the law of JEHOVAH.
 2 N Happy are they who keep His testimonies ;
 And seek Him with all their heart.
 3 N *Who* also do no iniquity ;
 And walk in His ways.
 4 N Thyself hast enjoin'd thine ordinances,
 That they be strictly kept.
 5 N O that my ways were establish'd,
 That I might keep Thy statutes !
 6 N Then shall I not be ashamed,
 When I look to all Thy commandments.
 7 N I will praise Thee with upright heart,
 When I learn Thy righteous judgments.
 8 N I will keep Thy statutes : forsake me not utterly.

II.

- 9 ⌋ Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way ?
 By keeping *it* after Thy word.
 10 ⌋ With my whole heart have I sought Thee :
 Let me not stray from Thy precepts.
 11 ⌋ In my heart have I treasured Thy words,
 That I may not sin against Thee.
 12 ⌋ Blessed be Thou, JEHOVAH !
 Teach me Thy statutes.
 13 ⌋ With my lips I enumerate all
 The judgments of Thy mouth.

- 14 כ I rejoice in the way of Thy testimonies,
As much as in all riches.
- 15 כ Muse I WILL on Thine ordinances,
And have respect to Thy paths.
- 16 כ I delight myself in Thy statutes :
I do not forget Thy word.

III.

- 17 כ Give to Thy servant life :
So WILL I keep Thy word.
- 18 כ Open mine eyes to behold
Wonders out of Thy law.
- 19 כ A stranger am I upon earth :
Hide not Thy commandments from me.
- 20 כ My soul is broken with longing
Continually after Thy judgments.
- 21 כ Thou hast rebuked the proud :
The accurst, *who* stray from Thy precepts.
- 22 כ Roll from me reproach and contempt :
Because I have kept Thy testimonies.
- 23 כ Yea, princes sit *and* accuse me :
Thy servant doth muse on Thy statutes.
- 24 כ Thy testimonies are my delight :
They are also the men of my counsel.

IV.

- 25 כ My soul doth cleave to the dust :
Revive me, after Thy word.
- 26 כ My ways I detail'd, and Thou heardest me :
Teach me Thy statutes.

- 27 7 In the way of Thy precepts instruct me :
So WILL I muse on Thy wonders.
- 28 7 My soul doth droop from anxiety :
Raise me up after Thy word.
- 29 7 The way of falsehood remove from me :
And graciously grant me Thy law.
- 30 7 I have chosen the way of faithfulness :
And have set before me Thy judgments.
- 31 7 I have adhered to Thy testimonies :
JEHOVAH, shame me not.
- 32 7 The way of Thy precepts I run,
Because Thou enlargest my heart.

V.

- 33 7 Teach me, JEHOVAH, the way of Thy statutes :
And I will keep them for ever.
- 34 7 Instruct me, and I will keep Thy law :
And observe it with all *my* heart.
- 35 7 In the track of Thy precepts guide me :
For I delight therein.
- 36 7 Incline my heart to Thy testimonies :
And not to gain.
- 37 7 Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity :
Revive me in Thy way.
- 38 7 Confirm to Thy servant Thy promise,
Which is to those who fear Thee.
- 39 7 Turn away the reproach which I dread :
For Thy judgments are good.
- 40 7 Behold, I long for Thine ordinances :
Revive me, in Thy righteousness.

VI.

- 41 ʾ Let Thy mercy come even to me, JEHOVAH :
Thy salvation, after Thy promise.
- 42 ʾ And let me answer him that reproacheth me :
For I trust in Thy word.
- 43 ʾ And take not true discourse
Utterly out of my mouth :
For I wait for Thy judgments.
- 44 ʾ And I WILL observe Thy law
Continually, for ever and ever.
- 45 ʾ Yea, I WILL walk at large, for I seek Thine
ordinances.
- 46 ʾ And I WILL discourse of Thy testimonies
Before kings, and not be ashamed.
- 47 ʾ I also delight
In Thy commands which I love.
- 48 ʾ Yea, I lift up my hands
To Thy commands which I love :
And muse on Thy statutes.

VII.

- 49 ʾ To Thy servant remember Thy word :
Because Thou hast caused me to hope.
- 50 ʾ This comforts me in mine affliction,
That Thy promise revives me.
- 51 ʾ The proud deride me exceedingly :
I do not swerve from Thy law.
- 52 ʾ I remember Thy judgments of old :
And comfort myself, JEHOVAH.

- 53 † Indignation takes hold of me,
At th' ungodly who forsake Thy law.
- 54 † Thy statutes have been my songs
In the house of my pilgrimage.
- 55 † I remember at night Thy Name, JEHOVAH :
And resolve to keep Thy law.
- 56 † This I have, that I keep Thy precepts.

VIII.

- 57 □ JEHOVAH my Portion,
I have promised to keep Thy word.
- 58 □ I entreat Thy favour with all *my* heart :
Be gracious, after Thy promise.
- 59 □ I have thought on my ways, and resolve
To turn my feet to Thy testimonies.
- 60 □ I hasten, and do not hesitate,
To keep Thy commandments.
- 61 □ The snares of the wicked surround me :
I do not forget Thy law.
- 62 □ At midnight I rise to praise Thee
Because of Thy righteous judgments.
- 63 □ I consort with those that fear Thee,
And with those that keep Thine ordinances.
- 64 □ The earth is full of Thy kindness :
JEHOVAH, teach me Thy statutes.

IX.

- 65 ▮ Thou dost good to Thy servant, JEHOVAH,
According to Thy word.

- 66 ъ Good taste and knowledge teach me :
For I have believed Thy commandments.
- 67 ъ Before my affliction I stray'd :
But now I keep Thy word.
- 68 ъ Good and beneficent art Thou :
Teach me Thy statutes.
- 69 ъ The proud frame lies against me :
As for me, with all *my* heart
I observe Thine ordinances.
- 70 ъ Their heart is coarse as fat :
As for me, I delight in Thy law.
- 71 ъ It is good for me to be afflicted :
That I may learn Thy statutes.
- 72 ъ The law of Thy mouth is more to me
Than thousands of gold and silver.

x.

- 73 ` Thy hands have made me and fashion'd me :
Give me discernment ;
So WILL I learn Thy commandments.
- 74 ` They who fear Thee rejoice when they see me :
Because I wait for Thy word.
- 75 ` I know that Thy judgments are right, JEHOVAH :
In faithfulness Thou hast afflicted me.
- 76 ` Let now, I pray Thee, Thy mercy comfort me :
After Thy word to Thy servant.
- 77 ` Let Thy bowels reach and revive me :
For I delight in Thy law.

- 78 ' Let the proud be ashamed, for they wrong me
falsely :
As for me, I muse on Thine ordinances.
- 79 ' Let those who fear Thee return to me :
And those who know Thy testimonies.
- 80 ' May my heart be sound in Thy statutes,
That I be not ashamed.

XI.

- 81 > My soul doth faint for Thy salvation :
I wait for Thy word.
- 82 > Mine eyes do waste for Thy promise :
Saying, When wilt Thou comfort me ?
- 83 > For I am become like a bottle in frost :
I do not forget Thy statutes.
- 84 > How many the days of Thy servant ?
When wilt Thou execute judgment
Upon my persecutors ?
- 85 > The proud dig pits to entrap me,
Who are not after Thy law.
- 86 > All Thy commandments are faithfulness :
With lies they pursue me : help me.
- 87 > They had all but finish'd me on earth :
As for me, I forsook not Thine ordinances.
- 88 > In Thy loving-kindness revive me ;
So WILL I keep
The testimonies of Thy mouth.

XII.

- 89 > Eternal art Thou, JEHOVAH :
Thy word, it stands in the heavens.

- 90 ♪ To all generations Thy faithfulness :
Thou hast fix'd the earth, and it standeth.
- 91 ♪ They stand to-day for Thy judgments :
For the universe serves Thee.
- 92 ♪ Had not Thy law been my joy,
I should, ere now, have perished in trouble ;
- 93 ♪ I will never forget Thine ordinances :
For with them Thou hast revived me.
- 94 ♪ Thine I am : O save me :
For I seek Thine ordinances.
- 95 ♪ The wicked wait to destroy me :
I consider Thy testimonies.
- 96 ♪ I see a limit to all perfection :
But Thy commandment is broad exceedingly.

XIII.

- 97 ♫ O how I love Thy law !
All day it is my meditation.
- 98 ♫ Thy law makes me wiser than *all* mine enemies :
For it is ever with me.
- 99 ♫ I have more understanding than all my teachers ;
For I study Thy testimonies.
- 100 ♫ I have more discernment than old men :
For I keep Thine ordinances.
- 101 ♫ I restrain my feet from all evil paths,
That I may keep Thy word.
- 102 ♫ I do not swerve from Thy judgments :
For it is Thou, who teachest me.
- 103 ♫ How pleasant Thy words to my taste !

To my mouth they are sweeter than honey.

- 104 ▮ From Thine ordinances get I discernment :
I therefore hate every way of falsehood.

XIV.

- 105 ▮ A lamp to my feet is Thy word :
And a light to my track.
106 ▮ I have sworn, and WILL perform it—
To observe Thy righteous judgments.
107 ▮ I am greatly afflicted, JEHOVAH :
Revive me, after Thy word.
108 ▮ Accept now, I pray Thee, JEHOVAH,
The free-will gifts of my mouth :
And teach me Thy judgments.
109 ▮ My life is continually in jeopardy :
But I do not forget Thy law.
110 ▮ The wicked lay snares to entrap me :
But I deviate not from Thine ordinances.
111 ▮ I take as my heritage
Thy testimonies for ever :
For they are the joy of my heart.
112 ▮ I Incline my heart to perform Thy statutes
For ever * * * unto the end.

XV.

- 113 ▮ I hate double-mindedness :
And love Thy law.
114 ▮ Thou art my Shelter and Shield :
I wait for Thy word.

- 115 ▢ Depart from me, ye that do evil :
I WILL keep my God's commandments.
- 116 ▢ Sustain me after Thy promise,
That I may live :
Let me not be ashamed of my hope.
- 117 ▢ Support me, that I be saved :
I will look to Thy statutes continually.
- 118 ▢ Thou rejectest all who err from Thy statutes :
For their guile is fruitless.
- 119 ▢ Thou puttest away as dross
All the ungodly of the land :
Therefore I love Thy testimonies.
- 120 ▢ My flesh doth creep through fear of Thee :
And I dread Thy judgments.

XVI.

- 121 ♪ I execute judgment and justice :
Give me not over to mine oppressors.
- 122 ♪ Give a pledge to Thy servant for good :
Let not the proud oppress me
- 123 ♪ Mine eyes do waste for Thy salvation :
And for Thy righteous promise.
- 124 ♪ Deal with Thy servant
According to Thy mercy :
And teach me Thy statutes.
- 125 ♪ I am Thy servant : give me discernment,
That I may know Thy testimonies.
- 126 ♪ It is time to act for ЖЕHOVAH :
They annul Thy law.

- 127 **Y** Therefore I love Thy commandments
More than gold, yea, more than fine gold.
128 **Y** I therefore entirely approve
All Thine ordinances :
I hate every way of falsehood.

XVII.

- 129 **D** Wonderful are Thy testimonies :
Therefore my soul doth keep them.
130 **D** The opening up of Thy word gives light :
To the simple it gives discernment.
131 **D** I open my mouth, and pine :
For I long for Thy commandments.
132 **D** In mercy turn Thy face to me :
As Thy wont is to those who love Thy Name.
133 **D** Establish my feet by Thy word :
And let no iniquity lord it over me.
134 **D** From th' oppression of man redeem me :
So WILL I observe Thine ordinances.
135 **D** Cause the light of Thy face to shine on Thy
servant :
And teach me Thy statutes.
136 **D** Mine eyes stream down with water,
Because They keep not Thy law.

XVIII.

- 137 **S** Righteous art Thou, JEHOVAH :
And upright are Thy judgments.
138 **S** The testimonies Thou hast enjoined
Are righteous and very faithful.

- 139 **℣** My zeal consumes me :
 For my foes have forgotten Thy words.
- 140 **℣** Thy word is refined exceedingly :
 And Thy servant loves it.
- 141 **℣** Small am I, and despised :
 Yet I do not forget Thine ordinances.
- 142 **℣** Thy righteousness is everlasting righteousness
 And Thy law is truth.
- 143 **℣** Trouble and anguish o'ertake me :
 Thy commandments are my delight.
- 144 **℣** The righteousness of Thy testimonies
 Is everlasting :
 Give me discernment, that I may live.

XIX.

- 145 **℞** I call with all *my* heart :
 Hear me **JEHOVAH** :
 I **WILL** observe Thy statutes,
- 146 **℞** I call upon Thee : help me :
 So **WILL** I keep Thy testimonies.
- 147 **℞** I prevent the dawn, and cry determinedly :
 I wait for Thy words.
- 148 **℞** Mine eyes prevent the night-watches,
 That I may muse on Thy promises.
- 149 **℞** Hear my voice, **JEHOVAH**,
 According to Thy mercy :
 Revive me, after Thy wont.
- 150 **℞** They are near who pursue after wickedness :
 They are far from Thy law.

- 151 ק Near art Thou, JEHOVAH :
And all Thy commandments are truth.
- 152 ק Long ago I have known from Thy testi-
monies,
That for ever hast Thou founded them.

XX.

- 153 ק Behold my affliction; and rescue me :
For I do not forget Thy law.
- 154 ק Fight my fight, and deliver me :
Revive me, after Thy promise.
- 155 ק Salvation is far from the wicked :
Because they seek not thy statutes.
- 156 ק Thy yearnings are great, JEHOVAH :
Revive me, after Thy wont.
- 157 ק My pursuers and foes are many :
I deviate not from Thy testimonies.
- 158 ק I am grieved when I see the perfidious :
Because they keep not Thy word.
- 159 ק Behold how I love Thine ordinances :
In Thy mercy, JEHOVAH, revive me.
- 160 ק The sum of Thy word is truth :
And all Thy righteous judgments
Endure for ever.

XXI.

- 161 ש Princes pursue me causelessly :
But my heart stands in awe of Thy words.
- 162 ש Over Thy word I exult,
As one who finds much spoil.

- 163 **W** Falsehood I hate and abhor :
Thy law do I love.
- 164 **W** Seven times a day do I praise Thee
Because of Thy righteous judgments.
- 165 **W** Great peace have they who love Thy law :
And they meet with no stone of stumbling.
- 166 **W** I hope for Thy salvation, **JEHOVAH** :
And practise Thy commandments.
- 167 **W** My soul observes Thy testimonies :
And I love them exceedingly.
- 168 **W** I observe Thy precepts and testimonies :
For all my ways are before Thee.

XXII.

- 169 **T** Let my cry come before Thee, **JEHOVAH** :
Give me discernment,
According to Thy word.
- 170 **T** Let my prayer come before Thee : deliver me,
According to Thy promise.
- 171 **T** My lips shall pour forth praise,
When Thou dost teach me Thy statutes.
- 172 **T** My tongue shall respond to Thy word :
For all Thy commandments are righteous-
ness.
- 173 **T** Let Thy hand be my help :
For I have chosen Thine ordinances.
- 174 **T** I long for Thy salvation, **JEHOVAH** :
And Thy law is my delight.
- 175 **T** My soul, let it live, and praise Thee :
And let Thy decision help me.

176 **7** I have stray'd, like a sheep that is lost :
 Seek Thy servant,
 For I do not forget Thy commandments.

STROPHE—DIVISION 8. 8. 8.—22 times repeated.

PSALMS CXX.—CXXXIV.

THE PILGRIMAGE-BOOK.

PSALM CXX.

A PILGRIMAGE-SONG.

I.

1 ON JEHOVAH I call'd in my strait, and He heard
 me.
 2 Deliver my soul, JEHOVAH,
 From lying lips :
 From a deceitful tongue.
 3 What shall He give thee, and what shall He add
 to thee,
 Thou deceitful tongue ?
 4 Barb'd arrows of the mighty
 With burning coals of genista.

II.

5 Woe is me that I sojourn near Mesech,
 And dwell by the tents of Kedar !

- 6 My soul hath dwelt too long
 With him that hateth peace.
- 7 I am *wholly* peace : but when I speak,
 They are for war.

STROPHE—DIVISION 4. 3.=7.

PSALM CXXI.

A SONG FOR PILGRIMAGES.

I.

- 1 I DIRECT mine eyes to the hills
 Whence cometh my help.
- 2 My help doth come from **JEHOVAH**,
 Creator of heaven and earth.

II.

- 3 May He not suffer thy foot to slide !
 Thy Keeper, may He not sleep !
- 4 Behold, the Keeper of Israel
 Sleeps not, nor falls asleep.
- 5 **JEHOVAH** is thy Keeper :
 JEHOVAH, thy Shade on thy right-hand.
- 6 The sun shall not hurt thee by day :
 Nor the moon by night.

III.

- 7 From all manner of evil **JEHOVAH** will keep thee :
 He will keep thy soul.

- 8 JEHOVAH will keep thine egress and ingress,
 From henceforth * * * even for ever.

STROPHE—DIVISION 2. 4. 2.=8.

PSALM CXXII.

A PILGRIMAGE-SONG : BY DAVID.

I.

- 1 I REJOICE over those who say to me,
 “ We will go to the house of JEHOVAH.”
 2 Our feet *even now* are standing
 Within thy gates, Jerusalem.

II.

- 3 Jerusalem, thou that art built
 As a city compact together !
 4 Whither the tribes go up,
 The tribes of JEHOVAH—
 (A testimony for Israel) :
 To praise the Name of JEHOVAH.
 5 For the thrones of judgment are set there :
 The thrones of the house of David.

III.

- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem :
 May they be in quiet, who love Thee !
 7 Peace be within thy bulwarks :
 Quiet within thy palaces !

- 8 For the sake of my brethren and friends
 I WILL say, "Peace be within thee!"
- 9 Because of the house of JEHOVAH our God,
 I resolve to seek thy good.

STROPHE—DIVISION 2. 3. 4.

PSALM CXXIII.

A PILGRIMAGE-SONG.

I.

- 1 To Thee I direct mine eyes,
 O Thou that dwellest in heaven!
- 2 Behold, as the eyes of servants
 Look to the hand of their masters:
 And as the eyes of a maiden
 Look to the hand of her mistress:
 Even so our eyes do look
 To JEHOVAH our God,
 Until He be gracious unto us.

II.

- 3 Be gracious to us, JEHOVAH:
 Be gracious to us:
 We are fill'd with contempt exceedingly.
- 4 Our soul is exceedingly fill'd
 With the scorn of the violent:
 The contempt of the proud.

STROPHE—DIVISION 2. 2.

PSALM CXXIV.

A PILGRIMAGE-SONG : BY DAVID.

I.

- 1 “HAD not JEHOVAH been for us,”
 Now may Israel say ;
 2 “HAD not JEHOVAH been for us,
 “When men rose up against us :
 3 “They had swallow’d us up alive,
 “When their fury was hot against us ;
 4 “The waters had then o’erwhelm’d us ;
 “The stream had gone over our soul.
 5 “ “The swelling waters
 “Had then gone over our soul.

II.

- 6 “Blest be JEHOVAH,
 “Who hath not given us up
 “A prey to their teeth.
 7 “ “Our soul is escaped
 “Like a bird from the snare of the fowler :
 ““The snare is broken, and we are escaped.
 8 “ “JEHOVAH’s Name is our Help :
 ““Creator of heaven and earth.”

STROPHE—DIVISION 5. 3.

PSALM CXXV.

A PILGRIMAGE-SONG.

I.

- 1 THEY who trust in JEHOVAH are like Mount Sion :
 It moves not, *but* sits for ever.

II.

- 2 The mountains encircle Jerusalem :
 And JEHOVAH encircles His people
 From henceforth * * * even for ever.
 3 For the sceptre of wickedness rests not
 On the lot of the righteous :
 Lest the righteous put forth his hand to unright-
 eousness.

III.

- 4 Do good to the good, JEHOVAH :
 To the upright in heart.
 5 As for those who decline to their bye-paths,
 JEHOVAH will class them with evil-doers :
 Peace upon Israel !

STROPHE—DIVISION 1. 2. 2.

PSALM CXXVI.

A PILGRIMAGE-SONG.

I.

- 1 WHEN JEHOVAH restored Sion's captives.
 We were like to men that dream.
2 Then our mouth was fill'd with laughter :
 And our tongue with singing.
 Then they said 'mong the heathen,
 " JEHOVAH hath done great things for these men."
3 JEHOVAH hath done great things for us :
 Right glad we were.

II.

- 4 Restore our captives, JEHOVAH,
 As the streams in the south.
5 They that sow in tears shall reap in singing.
6 He that wends his way and weeps,
 Bearing the seed-draught,
 Shall doubtless come with singing,
 Bearing his sheaves.

STROPHE—DIVISION 3. 3.

PSALM CXXVII.

A PILGRIMAGE-SONG BY SOLOMON.

I.

- 1 IF JEHOVAH build not the house,
They labour in vain who build it.
If JEHOVAH keep not the city,
The watchman wakes in vain.
- 2 'Tis *all* in vain,
Ye early risers who late take rest,
And eat the bread of toilsomeness :
So He gives His beloved in sleep.

II.

- 3 Lo, sons are JEHOVAH's heritage :
The fruit of the womb, a reward.
- 4 As arrows in th' hand of a warrior,
So are sons of youthful *parents*.
- 5 Happy he whose quiver is full of them !
They shall not be ashamed ; for they
Will demolish their foes in the gate.

STROPHE—DIVISION 2. 3.

PSALM CXXVIII.

A PILGRIMAGE-SONG.

I.

- 1 **HAPPY** the man that fears **JEHOVAH** :
 And walks in His ways.
- 2 The toil of thy hands thou shalt surely eat :
 Well is it with thee, and thou shalt have good.
- 3 Thy wife shall be like to a fruitful vine,
 In th' interior of thy house :
 Thy children, like olive-plants,
 Shall surround thy table.

II.

- 4 **Lo**, thus shall the man be blessed,
 Who fears **JEHOVAH**.
- 5 **JEHOVAH** will bless thee from Sion :
 Thou shalt look on the peace of Jerusalem
 All the days of thy life.
- 6 Thou shalt look on thy children's children.
 Peace upon Israel !

STROPHE—DIVISION 3. 3.

PSALM. CXXIX.

A PILGRIMAGE-SONG.

I.

- 1 " FROM my youth have they oft opprest me ; "
 Now may Israel say :
2 " From my youth have they oft opprest me ;
 " But have not prevail'd against me.
3 " Upon my back plough'd ploughers :
 " They made their furrows long.
4 " JEHOVAH is righteous :
 " He cuts the cords of the wicked."

II.

- 5 They shall be ashamed, and retreat,
 All they who have hatred to Sion.
6 They're become as grass on the house-tops :
 Which withers ere it is pluck'd.
7 The shearer fills not his hand with it :
 Nor the binder of sheaves his bosom.
8 And the passers-by do not say,
 " JEHOVAH's blessing be on you :
 " In the name of JEHOVAH we bless you ! "

STROPHE—DIVISION 4. 4.

PSALM CXXX.

A PILGRIMAGE-SONG.

I.

- 1 FROM the depths I cry to Thee, JEHOVAH.
 2 Lord, hear my voice ; let Thine ears
 Attend to my supplication.
 3 If Thou, JEHOVAH,
 Should'st treasure up iniquities,
 Lord, who could stand ?
 4 But with Thee is forgiveness,
 To th' intent that Thou mayest be feared.

II.

- 5 I wait for JEHOVAH ; my soul doth wait :
 I hope in His word.
 6 My soul doth wait for JEHOVAH more earnestly
 Than watchmen *wait* for the morning :
 Than watchmen *wait* for the morning.
 7 Israel, hope in JEHOVAH !
 With JEHOVAH is mercy :
 And with Him is plenteous redemption.
 8 And He, *even* He, will redeem
 Israel from all his iniquities.

STROPHE—DIVISION 4. 4.

PSALM CXXXI.

A PILGRIMAGE-SONG BY DAVID.

- 1 JEHOVAH, my heart is not high ;
 Mine eyes are not lofty :
 I deal not in great
 And wonderful matters above me.
- 2 But I smooth and silence my soul :
 As a weanèd child with its mother,
 As a weanèd child, my soul is with me.
- 3 Israel, wait on JEHOVAH
 From henceforth * * * even for ever.

PSALM CXXXII.

A PILGRIMAGE-SONG.

I.

- 1 REMEMBER to David, JEHOVAH,
 All his trouble :
- 2 How he sware to JEHOVAH,
 And vow'd to Jacob's Mighty One.
- 3 " I will not enter my house,
 " I will not go up to my bed ;
- 4 " I will not give sleep to mine eyes,
 " Nor slumber to mine eye-lids,

- 5 “ Until I have found a place for JEHOVAH,
“ A dwelling for Jacob’s Mighty One.”

II.

- 6 Lo, in Ephratah we heard of it :
In the fields of the wood we found it.
7 We willingly enter His tabernacle :
We bow before His footstool.
8 Arise, JEHOVAH, into Thy resting-place :
Thou, and the Ark of Thy strength.
9 Let Thy priests be clothed with righteousness :
And Thy saints, let them sing for joy.
10 For the sake of David Thy servant
Turn not away
The face of Thine anointed.

III.

- 11 JEHOVAH hath sworn to David truth :
He will not swerve therefrom.
“ Of the fruit of thy body
“ Will I set upon thy throne.
12 “ If thy sons will keep My covenant,
“ And My testimony which I will teach them,
“ Their sons shall also sit
“ Upon thy throne for ever.

IV.

- 13 “ For JEHOVAH hath chosen Sion :
“ He hath desired her
“ For a dwelling for Himself.

- 14 " This is My rest for ever :
 " Here will I dwell, for I have desired her.
- 15 " I will richly bless her provisions :
 " Her poor with bread I will satisfy.
- 16 " I will clothe her priests with salvation :
 " And her saints shall sing for joy.
- 17 " I will cause the horn of David to sprout there :
 " I will furnish a lamp for Mine anointed.
- 18 " His foes I will clothe with shame :
 " On himself his crown shall flourish."

STROPHE—DIVISION 5. 5. 2. 6.=10. 8.

PSALM CXXXIII.

A PILGRIMAGE-SONG BY DAVID.

- 1 BEHOLD, how good and how pleasant it is
 For brethren to dwell in unity !
- 2 As the excellent oil on the head,
 Flowing down on the beard, the beard of Aaron,
 Which o'erflow'd the hem of his garment.
- 3 As the dew of Hermon,
 Which descends on the mountains of Sion.
 For there hath JEHOVAH commanded His blessing :
 Life for evermore.

PSALM CXXXIV.

A PILGRIMAGE-SONG.

I.

- 1 Lo, bless JEHOVAH,
 All ye JEHOVAH's servants,
 Who stand at night in the house of JEHOVAH.
- 2 Lift up your hands to the sanctuary,
 And bless JEHOVAH.

II.

- 3 May JEHOVAH bless thee from Sion,
 Creator of heaven and earth !

STROPHE—DIVISION 2. 1.

PSALM CXXXV.

I.

- 1 HALLELUIAH !
 Praise the Name of JEHOVAH !
 Praise Him, JEHOVAH's servants !
- 2 Ye who stand in the house of JEHOVAH :
 In the courts of the house of our God.
- 3 Praise ye JAH ; for JEHOVAH is good :
 Hymn to His Name ; for it is delightful.
- 4 For JAH hath chosen Jacob to himself :
 Israel for His peculiar treasure.

- 5 For I know that JEHOVAH is great.
 And our Lord above all gods.
- 6 JEHOVAH doth whatsoever He pleases.
 In heaven, on earth,
 In the sea, and in all floods.
- 7 He makes clouds to arise from the ends of the
 earth :
 He maketh lightnings with rain :
 He brings forth the wind from His store-
 houses.

II.

- 8 Who smote the first-born in Egypt,
 Both of man and beast.
- 9 Who sent signs and wonders
 Into thy midst, O Egypt,
 On Pharaoh and all his servants.
- 10 Who smote great nations, and slew mighty kings :
11 Sihon king of the Amorites,
 And Og the king of Bashan,
 And all the kingdoms of Canaan :
12 And gave their land for a heritage,
 A heritage to Israel His people.
- 13 Thy Name, JEHOVAH, *endureth* for ever :
 Thy Memorial, JEHOVAH, to all generations.
- 14 For JEHOVAH maintaineth the cause of His people :
 He compassionates His servants.

III.

- 15 The heathen's idols are silver and gold :
 The work of men's hands,

- 16 Mouths have they, and they speak not :
 Eyes have they, and they see not :
 17 Ears have they, and they hear not :
 There is no breath in their mouths.
 18 They who make them are like them, and all who
 trust in them.
 19 O house of Israel, bless ye JEHOVAH !
 O house of Aaron, bless ye JEHOVAH !
 20 O house of Levi, bless ye JEHOVAH !
 Ye who fear JEHOVAH, bless ye JEHOVAH !
 21 Blest out of Sion
 Be JEHOVAH who dwells in Jerusalem !
 HALLELUIAH !

STROPHE—DIVISION 7. 7. 7.

PSALM CXXXVI.

I.

- 1 GIVE praise to JEHOVAH, the good :
 For His kindness *endures* for ever.
 2 Give praise to the God of gods :
 For His kindness *endures* for ever.
 3 Give praise to the Lord of lords :
 For his kindness *endures* for ever.

II.

- 4 To Him who alone doth great wonders :
 For His kindness *endures* for ever.
 5 Who in wisdom made the heavens :

- For His kindness *endures* for ever.
7 To Him who made great lights :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.
8 The sun to rule the day :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.
9 The moon and the stars, the night :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.

III.

- 10 Who slew the first-born in Egypt :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.
11 And brought Israel out from among them :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.
12 With a strong hand and outstretch'd arm :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.
13 Who clave the Red Sea in twain :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.
14 And made Israel go through the midst :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.
15 And shook off Pharaoh's host in the sea,
For His kindness *endures* for ever.

IV.

- 16 Who led in the desert His people :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.
17 To Him who smote great kings :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.
18 And slew renowned kings :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.

- 19 Sihon king of the Amorites ;
For His kindness *endures* for ever.
- 20 And Og the king of Bashan :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.
- 21 And gave their land for a heritage :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.
- 22 A heritage to Israel His servant :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.
- 23 Who remember'd us when brought low :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.
- 24 And rescued us from our enemies :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.
- 25 Who giveth to all flesh food :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.
- 26 Give praise to the God of heaven :
For His kindness *endures* for ever.

STROPHE—DIVISION 3. 6. 6. 7. 4.=10. 12. 4.=22. 4.

PSALM CXXXVII.

1.

- 1 By the rivers of Babylon there we sat down :
And wept remembering Sion.
- 2 Our harps we hung on the willows
Which grow in the midst thereof :
- 3 For there they who carried us captive
Required of us words of song :
And they who plunder'd us, mirth :
“ Sing us a song of Sion.”

- 4 How could we sing JEHOVAH's song
 In a land of strangers !
5 If I forget thee, Jerusalem,
 Let my right hand forget *its skill* !
6 If I remember thee not,
 Let my tongue adhere to my palate :
 If I exalt not Jerusalem
 Above my highest joy !

III.

- 7 Remember, JEHOVAH, the day of Jerusalem
 Against the children of Edom.
 " Lay it bare," said they, " lay it bare
 " Even to its foundations."
8 O ruin'd daughter of Babylon,
 Happy he who requites thee the benefits
 Thou hast conferr'd upon us !
9 Happy he who seizes and dashes
 Thy sucklings against the cliff !

STROPHE—DIVISION 6. 3.

PSALM CXXXVIII.

BY DAVID.

I.

- 1 With all my heart will I praise Thee :
 Before the gods will I hymn Thee.

- 2 I WILL bow down tow'rd Thy holy temple,
And praise Thy Name,
Because of Thy mercy and truth :
For Thou hast made glorious Thy word
Above all Thy Name.
- 3 In the day I call'd Thou didst answer me :
Emboldening my soul with strength.

II.

- 4 All kings of the earth will praise Thee, JEHOVAH,
When they hear the words of my mouth.
- 5 They will sing in JEHOVAH's ways,
That great is JEHOVAH's glory.
- 6 Though JEHOVAH is high, He regards the lowly :
The haughty He knows afar off.

III.

- 7 When I walk amidst trouble Thou dost revive me :
Thou dost stretch forth Thy hand
Against the rage of mine enemies :
And Thy right-hand doth save me.
- 8 JEHOVAH will perfect that which concerneth me :
Thy mercy, JEHOVAH, *endureth* for ever ;
Forsake not the works of Thy hands.

STROPHE—DIVISION 3. 3. 2.

PSALM CXXXIX.

TO THE CHIEF MUSICIAN. A PSALM BY DAVID.

I.

- 1 JEHOVAH, Thou searchest and knowest me :
2 Thou, *even* Thou, dost know
 My resting and my rising :
 Thou discernest my thoughts from afar.
3 My path and my couch Thou winnowest :
 And with all my ways art familiar.
4 When there is not a word on my tongue,
 Lo, JEHOVAH, Thou knowest it all.
5 Behind and before Thou besiegest me :
 And layest Thy hand upon me.
6 The knowledge *of this* is too wonderful for me :
 'Tis high : I cannot attain to it.

II.

- 7 Whither *then* shall I go from Thy Spirit ?
 And whither flee from Thy Presence ?
8 If I climb to heaven, Thou art there !
 If I make my bed in Hades,
 Behold, Thou art there !
9 If I take the wings of the morning
 And dwell beyond the seas,
10 Even there Thy hand would lead me :
 And Thy right hand hold me.

- 11 If I say, "Surely darkness will shroud me,"
The night is luminous round me.
12 Even darkness darkens not from Thee :
But the night doth shine as the day :
Darkness and light are alike.

III.

- 13 For THOU possessest my reins :
In my mother's womb Thou didst form me.
14 I will praise Thee, for I
Am fearfully and wonderfully made :
Wonderful are Thy works :
My soul doth know *it* well.
15 My frame was not hidden from Thee,
When I was made in secret,
And woven beneath the earth.
16 Thine eyes beheld my embryo :
In Thy book they all were written :
The days were determin'd, ere yet there was one
of them.
17 How precious to me are Thy thoughts, O God :
How great is the sum of them !
18 Were I to recount them,
They exceed the sand in number.
I awake, and am still with Thee.

IV.

- 19 If Thou wert to slay the wicked, O God,
I would cordially praise Thee :
Depart from me, O ye blood-thirsty !

- 20 Who adjure Thee for wicked purposes :
 And swear by Thy cities falsely.
- 21 Hate I not those who hate Thee, JEHOVAH ?
 And grieve over those who rise up against Thee ?
- 22 I hate them with perfect hatred :
 They are as my *personal* enemies.
- 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart :
 Prove me, and know my thoughts.
- 24 And see if there be any painful way in me :
 And lead me in the way everlasting.

STROPHE—DIVISION 6. 6. 6. 6.=24.

PSALM CXL.

TO THE CHIEF MUSICIAN. A PSALM BY DAVID.

I.

- 1 FROM the evil man, JEHOVAH, rescue me ;
 From the man of violent deeds deliver me :
- 2 Who meditate ill in their heart ;
 All day they gather themselves for war.
- 3 They shapen their tongue, like a serpent :
 The poison of asps is under their lips.

PAUSE.

- 4 From the hand of the wicked preserve me, JEHO-
 VAH ;
 From the man of violent deeds deliver me :
 Who think to o'erthrow my footsteps.

- 5 The haughty hide snares and cords for me :
 They spread a net by the way-side :
 Toils they lay to entrap me.

II.

- 6 I have said to JEHOVAH, "Thou art my God!"
 JEHOVAH, give ear to the voice of my cry.
 7 My saving strength is JEHOVAH the Lord :
 Thou cov'rest my head in the day of battle.
 8 Grant not, JEHOVAH, the wish of the wicked :
 His evil intentions further not :
 Or they will exalt themselves.
 9 The poison of those that beset me,
 Their own lips' mischief, will cover them !
 10 Coals of flame shall be thrown on them :
 Into fire will He cast them :
 Into whirlpools, to rise not again.
 11 The man of tongue shall not prosper :
 The man of wicked violence,
 He will follow him thrust upon thrust.
 12 I know that JEHOVAH
 Maintains the right of the poor :
 The judgment of the needy.
 13 Surely the righteous shall praise Thy Name :
 The upright shall dwell in Thy presence.

STROPHE—DIVISION 5. 3. 5.

PSALM CXLI.

A PSALM BY DAVID.

I.

- 1 I CALL upon Thee, JEHOVAH : haste to me :
Give ear to my voice when I call on Thee.
- 2 My prayer, let it prosper before thee
As spiritual incense :
The presenting my hands *to Thee*,
As a *spiritual* evening oblation.
- 3 Place a watch on my mouth, JEHOVAH :
Set a guard on the door of my lips.
- 4 Incline not my heart to an evil matter,
To perpetrate wicked actions
With men who work iniquity :
And let me not eat of their dainties.

II.

- 5 The Righteous One smites me in kindness, and
chastens me :
Oil for the head my head refuses not.
But if they persist,
I will pray against their wickedness.
- 6 When their rulers are hurl'd against the cliff,
They will hear my words as pleasant.
- 7 As when a ploughman cleaves the earth,
At the brink of Hades our bones are scatter'd.

III.

- 8 For to Thee are mine eyes, JEHOVAH, my Lord :
 In Thee do I trust :
 Pour not out my soul.
- 9 Preserve Thou me
 From the snare they have hidden for me :
 From the toils of evil-doers.
- 10 Let the wicked fall into their nets together :
 While I pass over *in safety*.

STROPHE—DIVISION 4. 3. 3.=10.

PSALM CXLII.

A PSALM BY DAVID.

A PRAYER WHEN HE WAS IN THE CAVE.

I. .

- 1 To JEHOVAH I cry aloud :
 To JEHOVAH make loud supplication.
- 2 I pour out my plaint before Him :
 And show before Him my trouble.
- 3 For my soul is o'erwhelm'd within me :
 And Thou, Thou knowest my path.
 In the way wherein I should go
 Snares have they hidden for me.
- 4 Look to the right-hand, and see me :
 No one will know me : refuge fails me :
 No one cares for my soul.

II.

- 5 To Thee, JEHOVAH, I cry, *and* say,
 "Thou art my Hope, and my Portion
 " In the land of the living."
6 Attend to my supplication,
For I am reduced exceedingly :
Deliver me from my pursuers,
For they are mightier than I.
7 Bring my soul out of prison,
That *men* may praise Thy Name :
The righteous will compass me round,
When Thou shalt deal kindly with me.

STROPHE—DIVISION 4. 3.=7.

PSALM CXLIH.

A PSALM BY DAVID.

I.

- 1 JEHOVAH, hear my prayer :
Give ear to my supplication :
In Thy faithfulness answer me, and in Thy righteousness.
2 And enter Thou not
Into judgment with Thy servant :
For no one living is righteous before Thee.

- 3 For the foe pursues my soul :
He crushes my life to the ground :
He makes me to dwell in dark places,
Like one eternally dead.
- 4 My spirit within me is faint :
My heart within me is stunn'd.
- 5 I remember the days of old :
I muse on all Thy doings :
I ponder the works of Thy hands.
- 6 I stretch forth my hands to Thee :
My soul *is athirst* for Thee,
As an exhausted land.

PAUSE.

II.

- 7 JEHOVAH, answer me speedily :
My spirit is faint.
Hide not from me Thy face,
Or I shall become like those
Who go down to the pit.
- 8 Make me to hear
Thy kindness in the morning :
For in Thee do I trust.
Show me the way wherein I should go,
For to Thee do I carry my soul.
- 9 From my foes, JEHOVAH, deliver me :
With Thee do I hide myself.
- 10 Teach me to do Thy will,
For Thou art my God :

Let Thy good spirit lead me
On an even land.

11 For Thy Name's sake, JEHOVAH, Thou wilt revive
me :

In Thy righteousness bring my soul out of trouble.

12 In Thy kindness Thou wilt extirpate mine enemies,
And destroy all those that afflict my soul :

For I am Thy servant.

STROPHE—DIVISION 6. 6.=12.

PSALM CXLIV.

BY DAVID.

I.

1 BLEST be JEHOVAH my Rock,
Who traineth my hands for battle,
And my fingers for war.

2 My Beneficent One, and my Fortress :
My Height and Deliverer :
My Shield, and in whom I trust :
Who constraineth my people under me.

3 What is man, JEHOVAH, that Thou dost notice him ?
The son of a mortal, that Thou regardest him ?

4 Man ! he is like to vanity :
His days, to a passing shadow.

5 Rend Thy heavens, come down, JEHOVAH :
Touch the mountains, that they may smoke.

- 6 Lighten with lightning, and scatter them :
 Send forth Thine arrows, and rout them.
- 7 Put forth Thy hand from on high :
 Rescue me, and deliver me
 From many waters ;
 From the hand of the sons of the stranger ;
- 8 Whose mouth doth speak deceit :
 And their right-hand, a right-hand of falsehood.
- 9 I WILL sing to Thee a new song, O God ;
 I WILL play to Thee on a ten-stringed lute :
- 10 Who giveth salvation to kings ;
 Who redeemeth David His servant
 From the hurtful sword.

II.

- 11 Rescue me, and deliver me
 From the hand of the sons of the stranger ;
 Whose mouth doth speak deceit ;
 And their right-hand, a right-hand of falsehood.
- 12 That our sons may be as plants ;
 Vigorous in their youth :
 That our daughters may be as projectures ;
 Chisell'd as a palace.
- 13 That our garners may be full ;
 Supplying store on store :
 Our sheep increased to thousands,
 To myriads in our fields.
- 14 That our oxen may be laden :
 No disaster, and no loss :
 No wailing in our streets.

15 Happy the people with whom it goes thus :
Happy the people whose God is JEHOVAH.

STROPHE—DIVISION 10. 5.

PSALM CXLV.

I.

1 **℣** I WILL exalt Thee, my God, O King :
I WILL bless Thy Name for ever and ever.
2 **℣** Every day will I bless Thee :
And WILL praise Thy Name for ever and ever.
3 **℣** Great is JEHOVAH ;
And to be praised exceedingly :
His greatness is unsearchable.
4 **℣** Generation to generation
Shall celebrate Thy works :
And proclaim Thy mighty deeds.
5 **℣** Muse I WILL
On Thy splendid glorious majesty :
And the history of Thy wonders.
6 **℣** And they shall speak
Of the might of Thy terrible acts :
And I will rehearse Thy greatness.
7 **℣** They will pour forth memorials
Of Thine abundant goodness :
And sing of Thy righteousness.

II.

8 **℣** JEHOVAH is gracious and merciful :
Slow to anger, and great in kindness.

- 9 **ו** JEHOVAH is good to all :
 And His tender mercies
 Are over all His works.
- 10 **י** All Thy works do praise Thee, JEHOVAH :
 And Thy saints do bless Thee.
- 11 **כ** They speak of Thy glorious kingdom ;
 And talk of Thy power :
- 12 **ל** Making known to the sons of men
 His mighty acts ;
 And His splendid glorious kingdom.
- 13 **ד** His kingdom, an everlasting kingdom :
 His dominion *endureth* through all generations.
- 14 **ד** JEHOVAH upholdeth all who are falling :
 And raiseth up all who are bowèd down.

III.

- 15 **ו** The eyes of all do wait on Thee :
 Thou dost give them their food in due
 season.
- 16 **ד** Opening Thy hand, and satisfying
 The desire of all that lives.
- 17 **ס** JEHOVAH is righteous in all His ways :
 And holy in all His works.
- 18 **ו** JEHOVAH is nigh to all that call on Him :
 To all that call upon Him in truth.
- 19 **ו** He fulfils the desire of them that fear Him :
 He hears their cry, and saves them.
- 20 **ו** JEHOVAH preserveth all that love Him :
 And destroyeth all the wicked.

- 21 **My mouth shall speak JEHOVAH's praise :**
All flesh shall bless His holy Name
For ever and ever.

STROPHE—DIVISION 7. 7. 7.

PSALM CXLVI.

I.

- 1 **HALLELUIAH !**
Praise JEHOVAH, my soul !
2 **I WILL praise JEHOVAH, as long as I live :**
I WILL hymn my God, as long as I last.
3 **Trust not in princes :**
In a child of man, with whom is no help.
4 **His breath goes forth ; he returns to his earth :**
In that very day his thoughts do perish.
5 **Happy he whose Help is the God of Jacob :**
Whose hope *is based* on JEHOVAH his God.

II.

- 6 **Who created heaven and earth :**
The sea : and all that is in them.
Who keepeth truth for ever.
7 **He rights the opprest : He feeds the hungry :**
JEHOVAH looseth the bound.
8 **JEHOVAH unlocks the blind :**
JEHOVAH raiseth the bowed :
JEHOVAH loves the righteous.

- 9 JEHOVAH protects the stranger.
 He lifts up the orphan and widow :
 He twists the way of the wicked.
- 10 JEHOVAH is King for ever and ever :
 Thy God, O Sion, to all generations.
 HALLELUIAH !

STROPHE—DIVISION 5. 5.=10.

PSALM CXLVII.

I.

- 1 HALLELUIAH :
 For it is good to hymn our God :
 For He is lovely, *and* praise is becoming.

II.

- 2 JEHOVAH builds Jerusalem :
 He gathers the outcasts of Israel.
- 3 He heals the broken in heart :
 And binds up their sores.
- 4 He determines the stars by number :
 He calls them all by name.
- 5 Great is our Lord, and rich in power :
 His understanding is infinite.
- 6 JEHOVAH lifts up the meek :
 To the ground He levels the wicked.

III.

- 7 Respond to JEHOVAH, with song :
 Play to our God on the harp.

- 8 Who covers the heaven with clouds :
Who prepareth rain for the earth :
Who makes grass to grow on the mountains.
9 Who gives to the beast his fodder :
To the young ravens that cry.
10 In the strength of a horse He delights not :
Nor is pleased with the legs of a man.
11 JEHOVAH's delight is in them that fear Him :
In them that wait for His mercy.

IV.

- 12 Laud JEHOVAH, Jerusalem :
Praise thy God, O Sion !
13 For He strengthens the bars of thy gates :
He blesses thy children within thee,
14 He makes thy borders peace :
He fills thee with fat of wheat.
15 He sends His message on earth :
His word runs very swiftly.
16 Snow He gives like wool :
He scatters the hoar-frost like ashes.
17 He cast forth His ice like morsels :
Who can abide His frost ?
18 He sends forth His word, and melts them :
He blows with His wind, and the waters flow.

V.

- 19 He declares His word to Jacob :
His statutes and judgments to Israel.

- 20 He doeth not so to the heathen :
 And judgments they do not know.

HALLELUIAH !

STROPHE—DIVISION 1. 5. 5. 7. 2.=10. 10.

PSALM CXLVIII.

I.

- 1 HALLELUIAH !
 Praise JEHOVAH from heaven :
 Praise Him in the heights.
 2 Praise Him, all His angels :
 Praise Him, all His hosts.
 3 Praise Him, sun and moon :
 Praise Him, all shining stars.
 4 Praise Him, ye highest heavens :
 Ye waters above the heavens.
 5 Let them praise JEHOVAH's Name :
 Who commanded and they were created.
 6 He establish'd them also for ever and ever :
 He gave them a law which they do not transgress.

II.

- 7 Praise JEHOVAH from earth :
 Sea-monsters, and all floods.
 8 Hail and lightning : snow and frost :
 Stormy wind, fulfilling His word.
 9 Mountains, and all hills :
 Fruit-trees, and all cedars.

- 10 Wild beasts, and all cattle :
Worms, and feather'd fowl.
- 11 Kings of earth, and all the nations :
Princes of earth, and all *its* judges.
- 12 Youths, and also maidens :
Old men also, and children.

III.

- 13 Let them praise JEHOVAH's Name :
For His Name alone is exalted :
His splendour *is stamp'd* upon earth and heaven.
- 14 He lifts up the horn of His people :
The praise of all His saints :
Of the children of Israel, a people nigh to Him.
HALLELUIAH !

STROPHE—DIVISION 6. 6. 2.=12. 2.=14.

PSALM CXLIX.

I.

- 1 HALLELUIAH !
Sing a new song to JEHOVAH :
His praise in the assembly of saints.

II.

- 2 Let Israel rejoice in his Maker :
Let the children of Sion exult in their King.
- 3 Let them praise His Name in the dance :
With timbrel and psaltery play to Him.

- 4 For JEHOVAH delights in His people :
He adorns the meek with salvation.
5 Let the saints be joyful in honour :
Let them sing for joy on their beds.

III.

- 6 The praises of God in their mouth ;
And a two-edged sword in their hand :
7 On the heathen to execute vengeance ;
Punishment on the nations :
8 To bind their kings with chains ;
And their nobles with fetters of iron :
9 To execute on them the judgment written :
Such honour have all His saints !

HALLELUIAH !

STROPHE—DIVISION 1. 4. 4.

PSALM CL.

I.

- 1 HALLELUIAH !
Praise ye God in His sanctuary :
In His mighty firmament praise Him.
2 Praise Him because of His mighty deeds :
Praise Him for His abundant greatness.

II.

- 3 Praise Him with sound of trumpet :
Praise Him with lute and harp.

- 4 Praise Him with timbrel and dance :
Praise Him with strings and pipe.
- 5 Praise Him with sounding cymbals :
Praise Him with cymbals of jubilee.
- 6 All that hath breath, let it praise JEHOVAH :
HALLELUIAH !

STROPHE—DIVISION 2. 4. = 6.

NOTES
CRITICAL AND EXPLANATORY
ON THE
FIFTH PART OF THE BOOK OF PSALMS.

NOTES.

PSALM CVII.

As Psalms civ. cv. cvi. were composed towards the end of the captivity, so this Psalm was, in all probability, composed in the first year after the return, and sung at the first celebration of the feast of tabernacles, when the whole of Israel were assembled at Jerusalem, and sacrifices were offered to Jehovah on the newly-erected altar. Hengstenberg observes that "the state of matters is this. To the Davidic trilogy some Psalmist added, towards the close of the captivity, one of his own composition. This group was rounded off internally and externally, after the return from captivity, by the addition of a seventh Psalm."

Verse 29. *And the watery billows are hush'd.*

The watery billows—Heb. *their billows*, i. e. the billows of the waters mentioned in verse 23.

PSALM CVIII.

A cycle of twelve Psalms now commences, introduced by a Davidic trilogy. It follows two cycles, one of ten, the other of seven Psalms. The cycle of seven Psalms was also introduced by a Davidic trilogy.

The Psalm before us is a *variation* of Psalm lx. and consists of the same number of verses, namely, fourteen. The title and the doxology in verse 5 correspond to the title of the 60th Psalm, which consists of ten verses.

Verse 10. *Who will bring me to Bozrah ?*
—to Bozrah—Heb. עִיר מְבֻצָּר. There is a play on the word *Bozrah*, which signifies *fortified*.

PSALM CIX.

This Psalm is founded on the personal experience of David in the Sauline period, and culminates in *Him* in whom the Davidic family reached its summit. The imprecations uttered in this Psalm were sealed by Christ Himself against the Jewish nation, when he uttered those awful words, *Behold, your house is left unto you desolate*.

The Psalm consists of seven strophes, and the first verse of seven words.

Verse 4. *And I am wholly prayer.*

“ David was wholly prayer, when he went forth over

the Mount of Olives weeping, and with his head covered." (Hengstenberg) So also was our Lord, when he went over the brook Cedron, and entered the garden of Gethsemane.

Verse 18. *Let it enter his inwards like water.*

The allusion is to Num. v. 22.

PSALM CX.

This Psalm is called by Luther, "the true high main Psalm of our beloved Lord Jesus Christ." Our Lord Himself attests that it was composed in the Holy Ghost; and no other passage in the Old Testament is so frequently quoted and echoed in the New.

I willingly refer the reader to Hengstenberg's remarks on this Psalm.

Verse 1. *Sit at my right hand.*

"This *Scheblimini* is infinitely rich in consolation for the Church of God at all times; and the man who lets this one word get into his heart, is removed from all pain and sorrow; it is all one to him whether his enemies are few or many; he looks with serene smiles on their tumults and vain attempts. He says with Arud, 'I know One who sits at the right hand of God; and He is strong enough for all my enemies, and for all my misfortune. He sits on my account at the right hand of God to protect me.' " (Hengstenberg.)

Verse 3. *From the womb of the morning.*

"This implies," says Luther, "that it is with the

birth of the children of this kingdom as it is with the lovely dew, which falls in spring every day early in the morning, and no man can say how it is made, or where it comes from ; still it lies there every morning upon the grass." We know that dew is precipitated from the atmosphere. In like manner believers are "*born of the Spirit.*"

Thou hast Thy youthful dew—

i. e. Thy youthful soldiery, who in their holy garments resemble the dew in beauty.

"The soldiery of the king," says Hengstenberg, "consists in part of old grey warriors ; but the spirit of youth is common to them all ; and therefore the whole army presents to the Psalmist a youthful appearance."

Compare Is. xl. 31.

They who wait on JEHOVAH renew their strength :

They mount up on wings as eagles ;

They run without weariness :

They walk without fainting.

It is observable that *δρόσος* is used by Æschylus in his Agamemnon for an unfledged bird, and *ἔρση* by Homer in the Odyssey for a young lamb or kid.

Verse 5. *The Lord at Thy right-hand hath wounded*

Kings in the day of His wrath.

This received a first fulfilment in the time of Constantine : see Rev. vi. 16. It will receive its plenary accomplishment in the final overthrow of Antichrist, and of the kingdoms in confederacy with him.

Verse 7. *Of the brook he drinks in the way—*

not, *He drinks of the brook in the way*. The brook of which He drinks is not in the way : but He being in the way drinks of it. The allusion is to Judges xv. 19.

He therefore lifts up the head—

not only His own head, but also the head of His warriors—subjects, who are enabled by His grace to remain faithful unto the end.

PSALM CXI.

To the Davidic trilogy is now added a new trilogy. The key-note of the Psalm is given in the commencing HALLELUIAH. The Psalm is an alphabetical one, and is perfect in its arrangement, consisting of 22 clauses, commencing severally with the letters of the alphabet in order. As the Psalm has 10 verses, 2 of the verses have 3 clauses each.

Verse 2. *Enquired of according to all their wishes—* i. e. according to all the wishes of the upright mentioned in the preceding verse. The Hebrew may be translated thus :—*Studied in all their designs*.

In this case the suffix refers to “the works of JEHOVAH.” The authorized translation is inadmissible.

PSALM CXII.

“The fundamental thought of this Psalm,” says Hengstenberg, “is this :—God will not be wanting to

Himself: let a man sow faithfully, though it be in tears, in due season he shall reap in joy." The Psalm is alphabetical, and constructed on the same plan as the preceding.

PSALM CXIII.

"God is specially to be praised for this, that He compassionates the miserable, graciously regards the humble, and undertakes for the forsaken." (Arud.)

PSALM CXIV.

The Church encouraged under the depressing power of the world by a review of God's Omnipotent deeds in her behalf in her journey from Egypt to Canaan.

PSALM CXV.

The Psalmist contrasts the God of Israel with the gods of the heathen: the former is *omnipotence*, the latter *feebleness*.

PSALM CXVI.

This Psalm has a joyful, and yet a melancholy tone. As Hengstenberg observes, "We see every where tears

in the eyes of the thankful Psalmist : thanksgiving suppresses lamentation."

The יהושע of verse 6, alludes to the significant name of *Joshua*, the first high-priest of the new colony.

PSALM CXVII.

This is the shortest of all the Psalms. It forms a pair with the preceding, and supplements it. The Strophe—Division of the two Psalms conjointly, is 2. 7. 10. 2.=17, 4.=21.

PSALM CXVIII.

This was Luther's favourite Psalm. "This is *my* Psalm," he says ; "the one which I love. Though the whole Psalter, and indeed the whole sacred volume, is dear to me as that which is my only consolation and my life, yet I am particularly pleased with this Psalm, so that it must be called and must be *mine* ; for it has often served me well, and has helped me out of many great troubles."

It is probable that this Psalm, with the whole decade to which it belongs, was sung at the laying of the foundation-stone of the temple, in the second year after the return from captivity. See Ezra iii. 10, 11.

"With this Psalm the great Hallel terminates, consisting of Ps. cxiii.—cxviii., which was sung at all

the feasts, especially at the Passover and the feast of tabernacles :—a practice which seems to have been followed by our Lord and His disciples, Matt. xxvi. 30, and which testifies to the deep impression which the Psalm must have made on the people at the time when it was originally composed.” (Hengstenberg.)

Verses 10, 11, 12. *I surely will circumcise them.*

This is said ironically. Compare Gal. v. 12. Phil. iii. 2.

PSALM CXIX.

Hengstenberg calls this Psalm, “the chief song of the feast, the proper dedication-song, to which the preceding decade served as an introduction.” “The tone” he observes, “is the same as that of the eight previous Psalms, namely, that of soft quiet melancholy comforted by God.” “The Psalm may be recognized by its compass as being the conclusion of one great whole. It not only possesses the alphabetical arrangement in common with the introduction of the collection Ps. cxi. cxii., but is also nearly related to it in thought. In that introduction, also, praise is bestowed on the salvation of those who observe the commandments of God. There are, besides, several points of contact in individual expressions, with Ps. cxi.—cxviii.”

The Masorites observe, that verse 122 is the only one in which no mention whatever is made of any one of the names of the word of God.

Verse 1. *Happy are they whose way is perfect—
—whose way is perfect—*Heb. *the perfect of way.*

Verse 38. *Which is to those who fear Thee.*
Heb. *which is to Thy fear.*

Verse 83. *For I am become like a bottle in frost—*
The Hebrew word for *frost* occurs in the same sense in Ps. cxlviii. 8. The LXX, Syriac, Vulgate and Jerome, translate in the same manner.

Leathern bottles (and indeed glass bottles also) are apt to crack in frost.

Verse 89. *Thy word, it stands in the heavens—*
and partakes of their unchangeableness.

Verse 91. *They stand to-day for Thy judgments—*
to be the means of executing them.

Verse 109. *My life is continually in jeopardy—
—in jeopardy—*Heb. *in my hand.* Comp. Judges xii. 3. 1 Sam. xix. 5.

PSALM CXX.

A cycle of fifteen Psalms now commences, *which were sung by the pilgrims who went up yearly to Jerusalem at the great festivals.* Ps. cx xvii. is the middle Psalm of the group, and its title tells us it was composed by Solomon. On each side is a heptad of Psalms: of which two were composed by David, and two are anonymous. Each heptad contains the Name of JEHOVAH twenty-four times.

The fundamental thought in all these Psalms is *the providence of God watching over His Church*.

The Psalm before us alludes to the *slanders* raised by the Samaritans, and to the opposition stirred up by them from the *open* heathen to the rebuilding of the temple. *Meshech* and *Kedar* are to be taken figuratively.

PSALM CXXI.

This Psalm seems to have been "the evening song of the sacred pilgrim band, sung on retiring to rest on the last evening when the long-wished-for termination of their wandering, the mountains of Jerusalem, had come into view in the distance.—In this case, we find an explanation of the fact, that in the middle point of the Psalm *JEHOVAH* stands as *the Keeper of Israel*, with allusion to the declaration '*I keep thee*,' addressed to the patriarch as he slept on his pilgrimage; in this case also (the significancy of) '*He sleeps not nor falls asleep*' is seen in its true light." (Hengstenberg.)

PSALM CXXII.

This Psalm was sung at the gates of the city, where the pilgrim train had halted for the purpose of arranging the solemn procession to the sanctuary. The title

informs us that the Psalm was composed by David; and this is confirmed by internal evidence. "The design of the Psalm," says Hengstenberg, "is to conciliate the affections of the people for the new capital; to procure for it that place in their feelings which it occupied externally. Verse 3. takes for granted that Jerusalem had recently, for the first time, become a beautifully built city; and this was the case in David's time." (Hengstenberg.)

PSALM CXXIII.

The contempt of the *Samaritans* is referred to in this Psalm, as in Ps. cxx. See Neh. ii. 19.

Verse 2. Even *so our eyes* do look

To JEHOVAH our God,

Until He be gracious unto us.

"This passage paints in a striking manner the right position of those who sigh under the judgments of God. They do not rage and murmur, because they know that they suffer what they deserve; but they humble themselves, according to the exhortation of the angel to Hagar, under the hand which afflicts them, and only entreat that they may receive favour instead of justice." (Hengstenberg.)

PSALM CXXIV.

This Psalm was composed by David, probably during the Aramaic—Edomitic war, when he was threatened with destruction.

PSALM CXXV.

The date of this Psalm is the same as that of the prophecies of Zechariah. It was composed when the building of the temple was interrupted. Israel then possessed “a good kernel, but a bad shell.”

PSALM CXXVI.

This Psalm was composed after the return from captivity, and prays for the completion of the restoration.

Verse 3. *Right glad we were—*

Heb. *We WERE glad.*

Compare Ps.

Thou didst hide Thy face : I WAS confounded.

Verse 4. *Restore our captives, JEHOVAH—*

—our captives—Heb. our captivity.

PSALM CXXVII.

The burden of this Psalm is this :— “Every thing depends on the blessing of God.” It was composed by Solomon, and may be compared with Prov. x. 22.

JEHOVAH'S blessing makes rich :

And labour adds nothing thereto.

Verse 2. *So He gives His beloved in sleep.*

There is an ellipsis of *וְ* before *נִשְׁכָּם*. Luther and Hengstenberg give the correct translation. The rendering of the former is as follows :—

Denn seinem Freunden giebt er es schlafend, (for He gives it to His friends sleeping.)

“ According to 2 Sam. xii. 25. Solomon received the name Jedidiah (the beloved of the Lord) ; and the promise made to him of the Divine blessing was given, according to 1 Kings iii. 5—14., when he was asleep.” (Hengstenberg.)

The Authorized Translation has missed the sense of the passage.

Verse 8. *They shall not be ashamed—*

i. e. the sons.

For they

Will demolish their foes in the gate.

The gate is mentioned because the fighting was most severe in the gates of cities.

PSALM CXXVIII.

The subject of this Psalm is the happiness of the man who fears JEHOVAH.

Verses 5 and 6. *Thou shalt look—*

Heb. *Look*. The command is here equivalent to a promise.

PSALM CXXIX.

From past deliverances faith augurs that JEHOVAH will again deliver His people, and destroy their enemies.

Verse 6. *They're become as grass on the house-tops*—The past tense is elegantly used to show the suddenness of the destruction.

Compare the "*fugere feræ*" of Virgil.

PSALM CXXXI.

Verse 2. *As a weaned child with its mother,
As a weaned child, my soul is with me.*

"The point of comparison between the soul and the weaned—the small child (compare Is. xi. 8. xxviii. 9.) is the unpretending humility. Exactly parallel is Matt. xviii. 3, 4. The *mother* brings the image of the little child vividly before the eye, and she is specially thought of on account of the *לבי* upon me for *with me*." (Hengstenberg.)

PSALM CXXXII.

Verse 6. *Lo, in Ephratah we heard of it :*

In the fields of the wood it was found.

Ephratah is the ancient name of *Bethlehem*. There David spent his youth, and only heard of but did not see the ark of the covenant. The *field of the wood* is *Kirjath-jearim*, a forest-town where the ark was deposited after its return from the land of the Philistines.

PSALM CXXXIII.

Verse 2. *Which o'erflow'd the hem of his garment.*

The subject of the verb is *the beard*, not *the oil*. The oil might not touch the holy garments. By *the hem of his garment* is meant *the collar of his robe*.

Verse 3. *As the dew of Hermon,*

Which descends on the mountains of Sion.

A question here arises, namely, how the dew of *one* mountain can be said to descend upon *another*. French and Skinner attempt to get over the difficulty by the following remark:—"The Sion here mentioned is not Mount Sion upon which Jerusalem was built, but '*Mount Sion which is Hermon.*' (Deut. iv. 48.)" This is ingenious, but not satisfactory. The Mount Sion *here* is Mount הר ציון: the Mount Sion in Deut. iv. 48. is Mount הר מוריה.

Hengstenberg's remark, I believe, solves the difficulty:—"Hermon's dew=lovely dew." This *lovely dew* corresponds to the *excellent oil* in verse 2.

PSALM CXXXIV.

"The Pilgrim-bands present themselves at the temple on the evening of their arrival, and call on the servants of the Lord, who were there at the time of the evening-sacrifice, to praise the Lord in their name and that of the people, and to pray to Him. Coming in such a state of mind, they could not remain long with-

out the blessing; the priests therefore answered them by pronouncing it." (Hengstenberg.)

This Psalm closes the cycle of Pilgrimage-songs.

PSALM CXXXV.

A trilogy of Psalms now commences, the occasion of their composition being in all probability as follows. "In the sixth year of Darius the courage of the Israelites was raised by two circumstances, 1st, the successful termination of the building of the temple, seventy years after its overthrow, the dedication of which was kept with joy; (Ezra vi. 16.) and 2ndly, the conquest of Babylon whereby its entire destruction, as foretold in prophecy, was brought much nearer, seventy years after the destruction of Jerusalem. This explains the buoyant and courageous tone by which these Psalms are distinguished from the melancholy and depression that appeared in the decade of Psalms which belong to the period when the building of the temple was interrupted." (Hengstenberg.)

This trilogy of Psalms is the commencement of a dodecade, the tendency of which is to console and elevate the people of God. The dodecade includes a group of eight Davidic Psalms.

PSALM CXXXVI.

I have succeeded in translating this Psalm, not only *rhythmically*, but also *metrically*, in the strict sense of the term, each hemistich containing 3 *beats*, i. e. 3 *emphatic syllables*, so that the metre is uniform, the lines running in trimetres.

In verse 15 Pharaoh's host is compared to an army of locusts.

PSALM CXXXVII.

Verse 1. *By the rivers of Babylon there we sat down.*
 "There" is inserted to give prominence to the place of sojourn.

PSALM CXXXVIII.

Seventy-two Psalms of David have already preceded. A cycle of eight Psalms now commences, bringing up the entire number to eighty.

Verse 2. *Thou hast made glorious Thy word*

Above all Thy Name—

i. e. Thou hast vouchsafed a glorious promise above all through which Thou hast hitherto manifested Thyself.

PSALM CXXXIX.

Verse 16. *In Thy book they all were written :*

The days were determined, ere yet there was one of them.
—*they all*—i. e. all my days, and my destiny as connected with them.

Verse 17. *How precious to me are Thy thoughts, O God !*

The expression *Thy thoughts* is to be taken, not objectively, but subjectively ; denoting, not God's thoughts of the Psalmist, but the Psalmist's thoughts of God.

PSALM CXLI.

Verse 6. *When their rulers are hur'l'd against the cliff,*

They will hear my words as pleasant.

The subject to the latter verb is not *the rulers*, but *the ruled*. The *l* in the second hemistich marks the *apodosis* of the sentence. The construction is similar to that of Ps. xxxvii. 23.

Verse 7. *As when a ploughman cleaves the earth—*

So Jerome : *Sicut agricola cum scindit terram.*

At the brink of Hades our bones are scatter'd,
Nothing can be more gloomy at first sight than the picture here presented. But *the ploughman* is the precursor of *the reaper*, Compare Is. xxvi. 19. Ezek. xxxvii. and 1 Cor. xv. 36.

PSALM CXLVII.

A quaternion of Psalms now commences, which were probably composed for the consecration of the walls under Nehemiah (Neh. xii). The joyful and exulting tone of these Psalms finds its commentary in the 43rd verse of that chapter: "*And they offered on that day great sacrifices, and rejoiced, for God had given them great joy; and also the women and children rejoiced themselves, so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard even afar off.*"

PSALM CL.

This Psalm shows *where* JEHOVAH is to be praised, *why* He is to be praised, and *how* He is to be praised. Hengstenberg observes, "As the life of the faithful and the history of the Church, so also the Psalter, with all its cries from the depths, runs out in a Halleluiah."

GENERAL REMARKS ON THE PSALMS.

I.

Number of Psalms in the First Part 41

„ „ „ Second „ 31

„ „ „ Third „ 17

„ „ „ Fourth „ 17

„ „ „ Fifth „ 44

Total number of Psalms $41 + 31 + 34 + 44 = 75 + 75 = 150$.

It is observable that the First, Third and Fourth Parts conjointly contain a moiety of the Psalms, as also the Second and Fifth Parts conjointly.

Hence the Strophe—Division, so to speak, of the Psalter is $41. 31. 17. 17. 44. = 41. 34. 31. 44 = 75. 74. = 150$.

II.

The First Three Books contain the Psalms of David and his singers. The First and Third Books consist of the JEHOVAH Psalms; the Second Book consists of the ELOHIM Psalms.

The Last Two Books contain all the remaining Psalms from Moses to Nehemiah in exact chronological order. On the use of the term ELOHIM, Hengstenberg makes the following important remark:—"ELOHIM by itself is equivalent to JEHOVAH-ELOHIM. It was not necessary always expressly to name JEHOVAH, because He was

the unquestionable property of Israel : it was only contested whether He was ELOHIM."

If we compare the doxology at the end of the First, Second and Third Books respectively, we shall find it to be arranged as follows :—At the end of Book I. *Blest be JEHOVAH the God of Israel.*

At the end of Book II. *Blest be JEHOVAH ELOHIM.*

At the end of Book III. *Blest be JEHOVAH the God of Israel.*

III.

In the Fourth Book the use of the term JEHOVAH preponderates. Accordingly the Doxology, at the end of the Book is, *Blest be JEHOVAH the God of Israel!*

HALLELUIAH!

In like manner the Fifth Book ends in a series of Halleluiah Psalms.

The Psalms in the Fourth and Fifth Books are arranged chronologically, and, with the exception of Psalm xc. in cycles. The "*Prayer of Moses, the man of God,*" takes the lead, and is followed by a decade of Psalms sung in prospect of the Babylonian catastrophe. Then follows a heptad, consisting of two triads of which the first is Davidic, a seventh Psalm being added by another bard after the return from the captivity. This seventh Psalm commences Book v. the Strophe—Division of the Psalter requiring it. By this arrangement the Fourth Book contains the Psalms from Moses to the end of the Babylonish captivity, not composed by David and his singers, or their schools. With

these Psalms is bound up, as we have seen, a Davidic triad.

IV.

With Psalm cviii. a dodecade of Psalms commences, introduced like the previous heptad by a Davidic trilogy. These 12 Psalms were sung on the occasion of laying the foundation of the new temple. Then follows the Pilgrims' *βιβλαριδιον*, containing four Psalms by David, one by Solomon, and ten without names. With Psalm cxxxv. another dodecade commences, sung probably at the consecration of the temple. Of these the first three and the last concluding one are anonymous : the rest by David. The Psalter closes with four Psalms sung at the consecration of the city walls under Nehemiah.

V.

Of the Psalms 80 seems to have been composed by *David*, namely, the 41 Psalms in Book I ; 21 Psalms in Book II, beginning with Ps. li. and ending with Ps. lxxi. ; Psalms ci. cii. ciii. in Book IV ; and Psalms cviii. cix. cx. cxii. cxxiv. cxxxi. cxxxiii. cxxxviii.—cxlv. in Book V.

David is named in the title as the author of Ps. lxxxvi. in Book III : but it is probable that the sons of Korah composed the Psalm as from the soul of David, and then attributed it to him, just as they attributed Psalms lxxxviii. lxxxix. to Heman and Ethan respectively.

The name of *Asaph* is connected with 12 Psalms, of which 5 belong to the Asaph of David's time, namely, Psalms l. lxxiii. lxxviii. lxxxi. lxxxii. The remaining seven, namely, Psalms lxxiv. lxxv. lxxvi. lxxvii. lxxix. lxxx. lxxxiii. were written by the family of singers which had Asaph for its founder.

The Psalms of the *sons of Korah* are 14, namely, Ps. xlii—xlix. and Ps. lxxxiv—lxxxix. in agreement with the 14 Korahitic classes of singers. Seven belong to the time of David and Solomon, and seven are of later date.

Moses is the author of Ps. xc. and *Solomon* of Ps. lxxii. and cxxvii.

VI.

Many of the Psalms are in *pairs*; the following are arranged in this manner. Psalms i. ii.—iii. iv.—ix. x. —xiv. xv.—xx. xxi.—xxiii. xxiv.—xxv. xxvi.—xxviii. xxix.—xxxii. xxxiii.—xlii. xliii.—xlvi. xlviii.—lxx. lxxi.—lxxv. lxxvi.—lxxxviii. lxxxix.—xcv. xcvi.—xcix. c.—cxvi. cxvii.—cxx. cxxi.

Others are in *triads*, namely, Psalms iii. iv. v.—ci. cii. ciii.—civ. cv. cvi.—cviii. cix. cx.—cxii. cxiii.

Psalms cxiv. cxv. cxvi. cxvii. form a *quaternion*, as also Psalms cxlvii. cxlviii. cxlix. cl.

Psalms cxiii. cxiv. cxv. cxvi. cxvii. cxviii. form a *hexad*, called *the great Hallel*.

Psalms cxi. cxii. cxiii. cxiv. cxv. cxvi. cxvii. form a *heptad*, as also Psalms ci. cii. ciii. civ. cv. cvi. cvii. and cxx. cxxi. cxxii. cxxiii. cxxiv. cxxv. cxxvi. and likewise

Psalms cxxviii. cxxix. cxxx. cxxxi. cxxxii. cxxxiii. cxxxiv.

Psalms xci. xcii. xciii. xciv. xcv. xcvi. xcvii. xcvi. xcix. c. form a *decade*, as also Psalms cviii. cix. cx. cxii. cxiii. cxiv. cxv. cxvi. cxvii.

Psalms cviii.—cxix. form a *dodecade*.

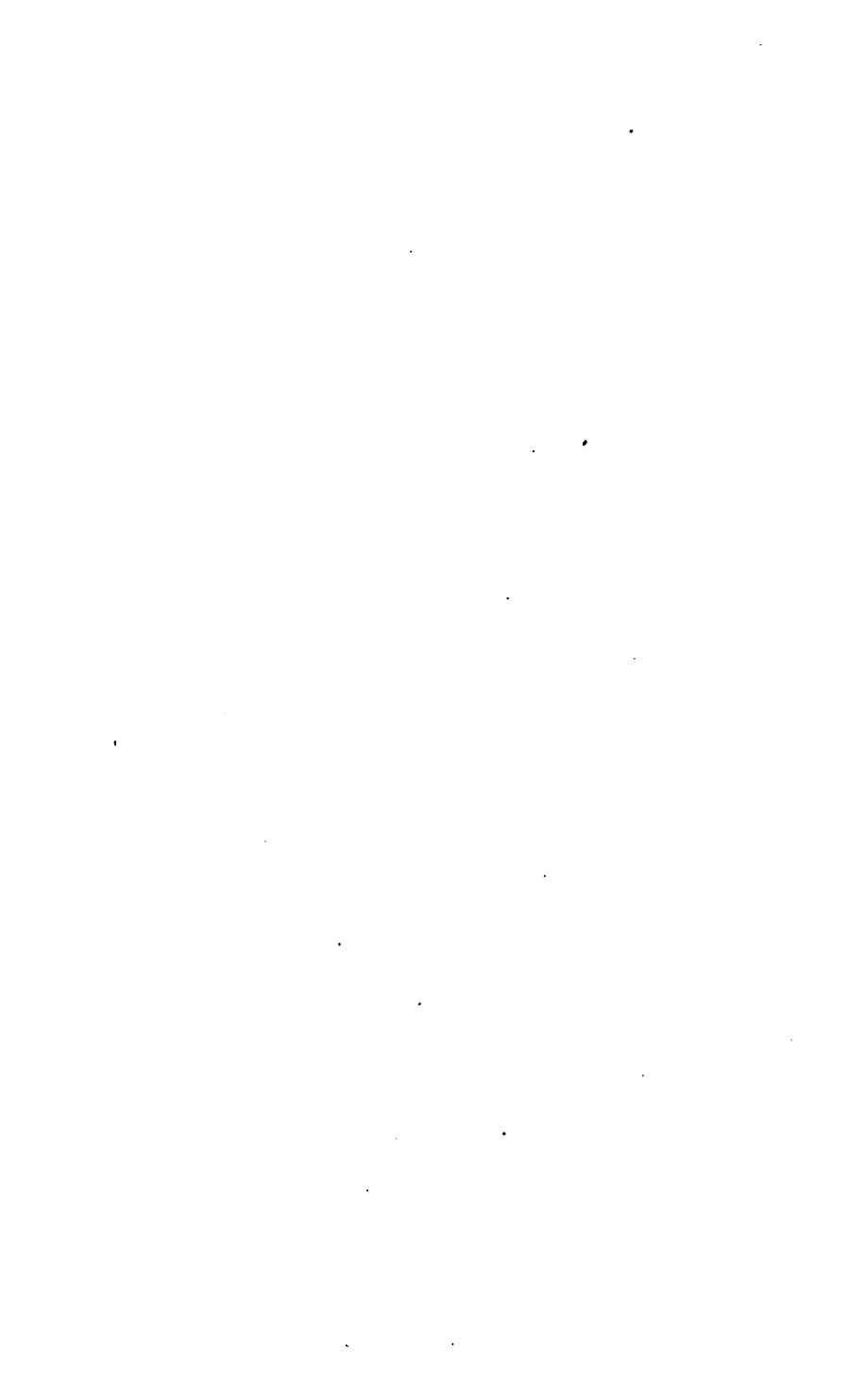
VII.

Psalms ii. xxii. lxxii. and cx. are directly Messianic : the rest culminate in Christ, inasmuch as He is the Alpha and Omega, the sum and substance, of Scripture.

THE END.







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